

Hafa Adai!

Google event attracts 150-some participants. **PAGE 2**

Jucutan's request to remain free pending appeal is OK'd. **PAGE 5**

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75¢

'Come out and vote'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

» **67 candidates vie
for 37 positions**

With 17,930 registered voters in the CNMI and over 5,000 having already cast their votes, thousands are heading to polling places today, Tuesday, to choose from 67 candidates who will occupy 37 positions, during a midterm election that is now called a general election.

The seven-day early voting on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota ended yesterday with a total of 712 people from Saipan, the Northern Islands, Tinian, and Rota casting their early votes at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his wife were among yesterday's early voters.

The results of yesterday's early voting on Tinian and Rota were not available as of press time. A total of 4,331 votes were cast in the first six days of early voting in the CNMI.

Election Commission executive

director Julita A. Villagomez urged voters to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

"Come out and vote. Bring your ID," Villagomez said.

Voting in polling places on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will start at 7am and close 7pm. Tabulation will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center.

For "confine voters" or those who are sick or physically unable to go

See VOTE on Page 4

'No more congestion after early voting'



Gov. Ralph DLG Torres casts his vote at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. At right is Election Commission executive director Julita A. Villagomez.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres thanked those in the community who chose to cast their votes early, as it would prevent congestion and long lines in polling places. As of Monday afternoon, more than 700 voted, raising the number of early voters to over 5,000 excluding Tinian and Rota.

Torres also availed of the early voting process and cast his ballot for GOP candidates running for the Third Senatorial District, Precinct 1 House of Representatives, and other elective posts. Early voting started on Nov. 1 and ended yesterday. Torres was joined at the polling station by first lady Diann Torres.

Re-electionist Sixto K. Igisomar is the GOP candidate going up against

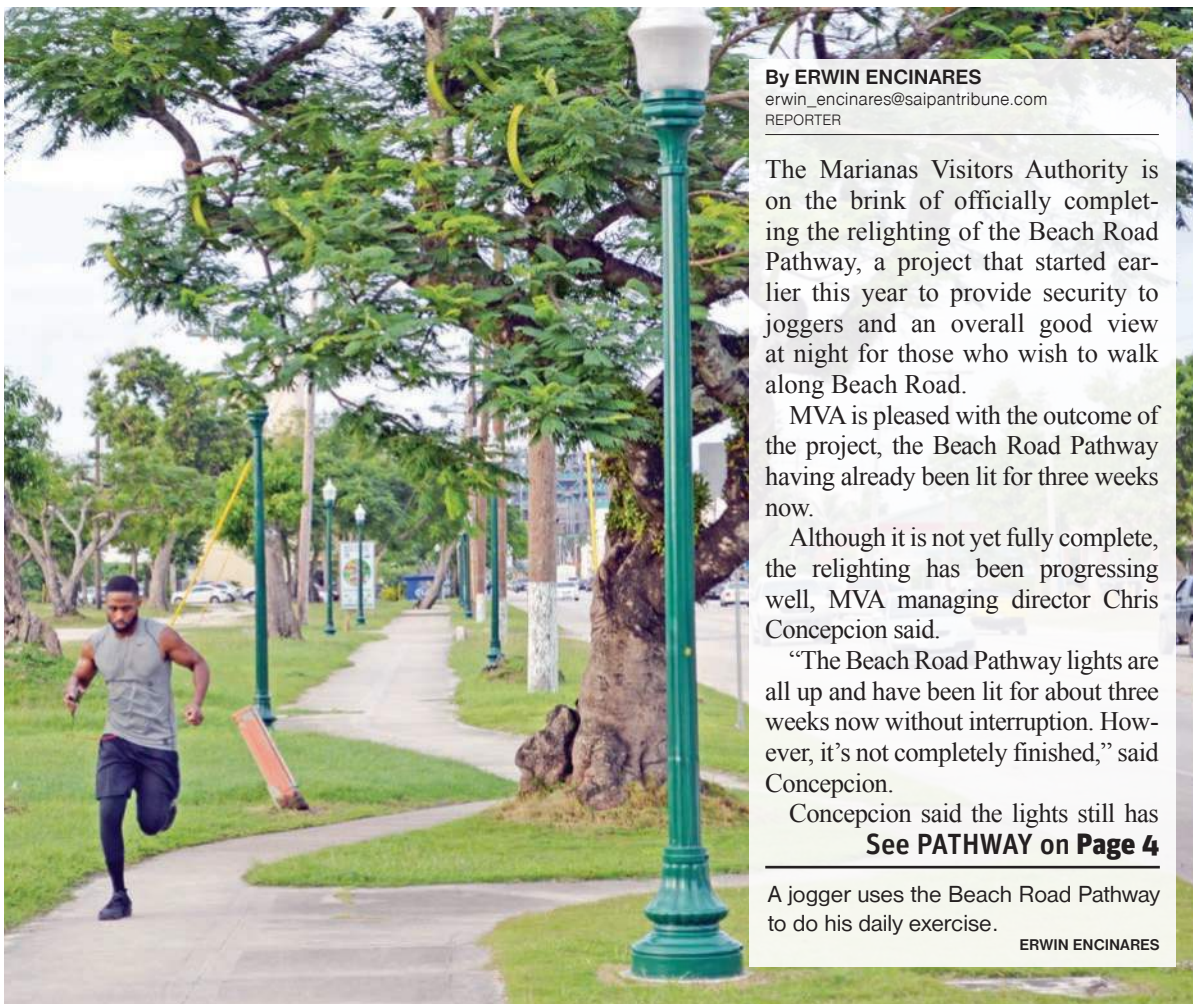
independent senatorial bet Ray Yumul for the lone Saipan senatorial post at stake. Reps. Angel A. Demapan, Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, Antonio P. Sablan, and Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero are running for re-election with Janet U. Maratita and Gregorio M. Sablan Jr. as the other Precinct 1 candidates.

Reps. Roman C. Benavente and Edwin K. Propst are the other incumbent members of the House who are running as independents along with Joseph A. Flores, Anthony I. Duenas, and Ana S. Teregeyo.

Torres said people from the community had the chance to schedule the day when are they going to cast their vote with the weeklong early voting. "I'm very impressed and satisfied with the turnout of early voting."

See NO MORE on Page 4

Pathway relighting nearly done



By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority is on the brink of officially completing the relighting of the Beach Road Pathway, a project that started earlier this year to provide security to joggers and an overall good view at night for those who wish to walk along Beach Road.

MVA is pleased with the outcome of the project, the Beach Road Pathway having already been lit for three weeks now.

Although it is not yet fully complete, the relighting has been progressing well, MVA managing director Chris Concepcion said.

"The Beach Road Pathway lights are all up and have been lit for about three weeks now without interruption. However, it's not completely finished," said Concepcion.

Concepcion said the lights still has

See PATHWAY on Page 4

A jogger uses the Beach Road Pathway to do his daily exercise.

ERWIN ENCINARES

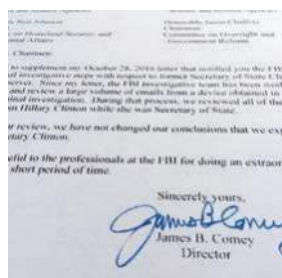
INSIDE



BUSINESS

Samsung Electronics will offer an artificial intelligence assistant service.

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NATION

In a last-minute twist, FBI director James Comey clears Hillary Clinton.

PAGE 15



ASIA

South Korea's biggest scandal in years has united the rival Koreans.

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Local

Google event attracts 150-some participants

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A Google event that aims to promote entrepreneurship on the islands was held for the first time ever on Saipan over the weekend at the Pacific Islands Club.

The workshop, which lasted three days and was called Start Up Weekend Saipan, drew about 150 participants. It was hosted by Google and Bank of Guam and was led by Anthony Quenga, business development officer at the Bank of Guam.

Google has been hosting multiple events with Techstars Accelerators, one of which is Start Up Weekend Guam, which inspires the youth to pitch business ideas to a panel of judges. Last Nov. 4 marked Saipan's version of the workshop.

For the price of \$0.99, the workshop pitted young aspiring entrepreneurs against each other in a battle to see whose business idea is worthy of development.

Quenga said the workshop gave young minds the opportunity to develop their business ideas into real life projects.



"Google has designed it very well where it's not that difficult. It really is just putting people into a room and just getting those ideas out and then working it into something we can get excited about and hopefully start off," said Quenga.

Start Up Weekend Guam was well received by the community, so the Bank of Guam wanted to bring that opportunity to Saipan.

"Start Up Weekend Saipan is organized by volunteers of the University of Guam pro-

fessional Master of Business Administration Program. Start Up Weekend Guam is organized by a different organization, but it is still the same thing—we follow the same guidelines," said Quenga.

The panel of judges on

Saipan was composed of Bank of Guam Saipan branch manager Larry Phillip, Docomo Pacific brand manager Danny Daniel, and University of Guam dean of Business and Public Administration Dr. Annette Santos.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Participants in Start Up Weekend Saipan have their picture taken at the Pacific Islands Club.

"We've consistently been hitting the 50 participant mark and we're very happy with how well Start Up Weekend Saipan has been received by the community. To see [the participants] dedicating their time and resources to get their projects done was most welcome and refreshing," said Quenga.

Military training at Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times on Nov. 4 from 5am to 9pm; on Nov. 7 from 7am to 10pm; and on Nov. 9 from 6am to 8pm.

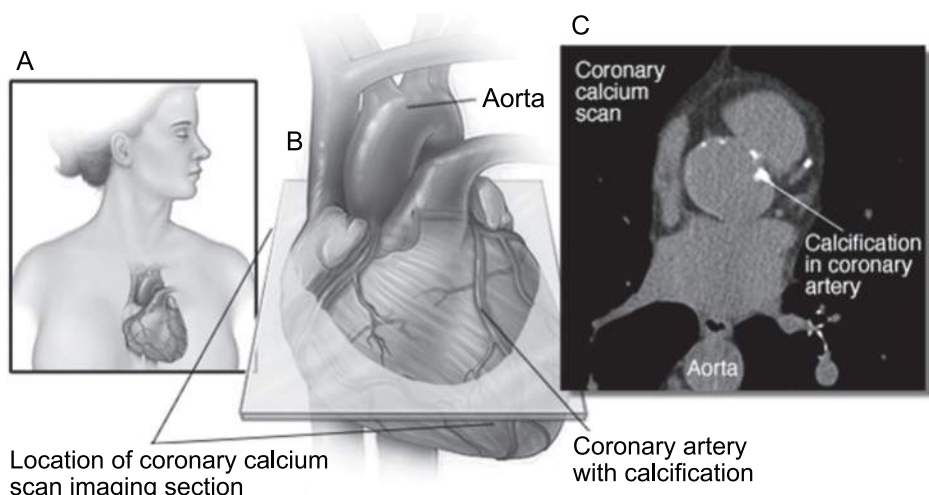
The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. (PR)

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HPO entertains new zip line proposal

The Historic Preservation Office said a new company is proposing to build a zip line project on Saipan after a similar proposal was thumbed down by the government agency a couple of years back.

HPO board chair Pedro A. Duenas Jr. said they discussed a number of issues during their board meeting last Thursday and among them was a new proposal to build a zip line project in Marpi.

"We had several issues about the zip line project as

well as other problems we need to follow up since we only had a meeting last year in March. We had a bad typhoon not too long ago, so it's no wonder some things were thrown back because of it. Now we're just trying to put all the board members together to do our part and help the public," he said.

Duenas confirmed that a new company, which he didn't name, is indeed applying to construct a zip line in the northern part of Saipan.

"Before, the person we were working with in regards to the zip line project suddenly disappeared, not sure if he quit or something, so another company had to take over," he added.

Another issue the HPO board tackled was with regards to Alter City Group's planned \$1.2-billion casino resort in Puntan Diablo on Tinian.

"There were several historical sites that would have been affected by the construction so we had a dis-

cussion on their importance and whether or not a structure would be built on top of them. I believe Tinian has its earth-moving permit still pending. As with the human remains policy, we just wanted to add another condition to the existing law that helps protect the remains of people on our island. The condition just assures us that the remains will be even more safeguarded," Duenas said.

HPO vice chair Hiroyasu Kurashina said, "It was very

productive. We dealt with several major issues pertaining to the preservation problems within the CNMI. We had a very open and frank discussion so I think that contributed to the progress we attained here today."

Last week's board meeting also saw new board member Eugenio L. Villagomez undergo an orientation. Elizabeth D. Rechebei, Francis X. Hezel, and D. Colt Denfeld are the other members of the HPO board. *(Michael Santos)*

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Birthday greetings go out to Chicko Hensus P. Arurang, who is celebrating his birthday today in Guam. May the Lord continue His blessing upon you everyday. Love from your family on Saipan.

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Torres to join visiting Japanese group

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres will be leaving for Japan on Friday,

Nov. 11, to accompany a visiting Japanese group that would

be coming to Saipan to conduct a ceremony next week.

The chartered flight from Shizuoka prefecture will be arriving on Saipan on Saturday.



JON PEREZ

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog join members of the CNMI chapter of Veterans of Foreign Wars along with their partners in the government and private sectors in yesterday's proclamation signing declaring Nov. 7 to 11 as Veterans Week.

Nov. 7-11 is Veterans Week

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog proclaimed Nov. 7-11 as Veterans Week during a ceremony yesterday at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 used to be known as Armistice Day, formally marking the end of World War I, before being changed to Veterans Day in 1954.

Torres thanked all the veter-

ans for their services.

"I'd like to recognize all the veterans. And to acknowledge, remember, and also to show appreciation to everyone that is a veteran," he said.

Torres said the government prioritizes the needs of veterans.

"I wanted to thank you for all of the services you guys have done. I know that we have some issues on our liability of clinics here, and I know that this is because of our population here. Even Guam is having a difficult time having a clinic for our veterans, but even a simple care we

are working with the Veteran's Affairs Office as well as the substance abuse and prevention to provide at least some sort of services when our veterans need them. Whether it be psychiatrists, counseling, or simply other needs. We acknowledge those. The lieutenant governor and I are working to meet those minimal care for our veterans and I want to say thank you again for all your services," he said.

Torres called upon the community to help support those that protect the country with their lives.

Hocog took the opportunity

to extend his utmost respect toward veterans.

"The governor and I and our families extend our sincere and utmost respect to each one of you and salute you for that ultimate sacrifice. Your determination to join the armed forces is to ensure the protection of our country, our democracy, and each and everybody's livelihood, and that is not an easy thing to do," said Hocog.

An event in honor of the veterans will be hosted on Veterans Day this Friday, Nov. 11, at the American Memorial Park with the focus for this year being Vietnam War veterans.

PATHWAY

From Page 1

issues with wiring, but are currently being addressed by their contractor, who intends to finish the project.

"The contractor is still fine-tuning some of the wiring and finalizing some of the paper work before the project can be considered officially complete. We are very pleased with the progress, and we are very thrilled with the results. The Beach Road Pathway lights are a great attraction," he said.

"They provide a sense of security for our visitors and residents who choose to walk the path in the evening hours," he added.

Concepcion said the community has the shared responsibility to be on the lookout for copper wire thieves, which are commonly stolen. The pathway used to be well-lit but has been hit by copper wire thieves over the years.

"We urge our community to remain vigilant so that vandals and thieves are deterred from committing any crimes against the pathway and its users. The MVA is proud to have funded this project and we extend our

thanks to our partners in the government and private sector who helped make it a success," said Concepcion.

The Philippines honorary consul to Saipan, Glicerio Arago, agrees with Concepcion.

"This is a big improvement to the tourist district Garapan, Beach Road particularly, because if the pathway is dark, it's scary, and tourists and locals might not even use the pathway because of that. With the lighting system on, at least you feel safe. When you feel safe, you get motivated to keep on walking," said Arago, who frequently walks and exercises along the pathway.

"I know that a lot of people would like to walk along Beach Road to get a view of the ocean as they walk, but if it's too dark, they change their minds. With these lights on, I believe that a lot of people will be inspired to walk," he added.

Arago said that the pathway lights are appreciated, but continuous maintenance of the project must be constant so that the pathway lights remain intact.

"The only thing that needs to be done from here is properly maintaining the pathway lights. The lights have to be

checked every now and then, because if not, who knows, maybe after two weeks the lights are off again, and the state of Beach Road returns to its old self," he said.

"That has happened before, when nobody was maintaining the pathway lights, they just suddenly turned off and it was really dark. Vandalism has also played a role in this, but I think with the proper maintenance, it can be avoided," Arago added.

MVA board member Jerry Tan spearheaded the project.

According to Tan, both residents and tourists alike benefit from the relighting of the pathway.

"The benefit goes beyond the residents. Many tourists choose to come to Saipan because Saipan is a resort island. Most tourists come from cities, and for them to take a 30-minute walk along the ocean is rare. That is just something that they don't get to enjoy in their country," said Tan.

"When they come to our island, just walking along the pathway is an enjoyment, because it is something they don't get to do often, something we take for granted, but for them, as a tourist, is a

ing on Saipan on Saturday.

Officials and guests from Shizuoka will join Torres on the flight that is expected to land at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport in the afternoon.

The Japanese group will be having a memorial ceremony at Banzai Cliff next week.

Before leaving for Japan, Torres is expected to meet with the Commonwealth Ports Authority board and acting executive director Chris Tenorio.

"We [I and the CPA board] are supposed to meet this

week and we are still trying to get a schedule this week before I leave for Japan. I will leave Saipan on Friday and will be back here on Saturday," said Torres.

Issues about the airport would be the main agenda of the meeting as the government is trying to find ways of improving service and its facilities. The runway lights, last Friday, was discovered not working at full capacity again, but CPA technicians quickly repaired the problem and it was fully operational again the same day. (Jon Perez)

VOTE

From Page 1

to polling places, Villagomez said they will entertain requests to vote from 7am to 12pm.

Voters will decide who among the 40 candidates should take the 20 House seats, and who among the seven candidates should occupy three Senate seats.

Voters will also select nine for municipal councils and three for the Board of Education. Twelve are running for municipal councils, while six for BOE.

U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) is running unopposed as he seeks a fifth term. First elected in 2008, Sablan became the first delegate from the CNMI elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho is seeking retention on the bench.

The Rota election is an interesting one. For the first time in CNMI history, brothers Rota Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind.) and Thomas A. Manglona (Dem.) are running for the same elected Senate position. Rota Municipal Council chair George Ogo Hocog (Rep) is also run-

ning for the same position.

At the House, an interesting fight will be for Precinct 3, where 12 candidates are battling for six positions, making it the precinct with most number of candidates. The precinct covers Garapan, Oleai, and part of Mt. Tapochau.

Of the 40 House candidates, 20 are independents, 18 Republicans, and two Democrats. Of the seven Senate candidates, three are Republicans, three are independents, and one is a Democrat.

Police captain Lawrence Camacho said he put up a police command post at the Multi-Purpose Center.

Camacho said the number of officers assigned for election-related operation will be doubled today.

Camacho has been designated by the Department of Public Safety as election operation commander.

The police captain earlier disclosed that starting on the first day of early voting, he dispatched one Saipan police officer to Tinian and another Saipan police officer to Rota to monitor the election on the two islands.

Camacho said Saipan officers assigned on Tinian and Rota will be assisted by three other police officers from each of the two islands.

NO MORE

From Page 1

Folks were able to work on their schedule instead of being confined to one day, specifically for Tuesday."

"Members of our community saw the advantage of voting early. ...Our elderly were able to work on their schedules of checkup at the hospital. Early voting proved to be useful to all [voters, candidates, and Commonwealth Election Commission] since it gave the opportunity of having a full week of casting their votes," said Torres.

He added that it would be easier to vote now for those who failed to take advantage of the early voting. "It would be a lot easier on election day with the early voting. It won't

be that crowded and congested like the way it should be."

"That's why I encourage everyone, especially to those who haven't voted yet, to go out and vote early to avoid crowding. It is a great opportunity for our people to go out and vote," Torres said. Early voters can now do other stuff since it is a holiday today. You can now spend time with your family."

Torres said that he is optimistic of the fate of GOP candidates this election. "I'm really impressed with the turnout of the early voting and it is almost the same as the last general elections. The way we look at it, based on the numbers from the early voters and our supporters that came in, we are optimistic that our candidates are going to win."

Jucutan's request to remain free pending appeal is OK'd

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has granted the request of former U.S. Army Reserve member Jordan M. Jucutan to remain free while his appeal over his conviction and sentence is pending.

In an order on Friday, Manglona agreed with Jucutan that it is "fairly debatable" whether his offenses come under the Wartime Suspension of Limitations Act.

Manglona said there has been a spate of prosecutions across the country arising from recruitment fraud schemes in connection with Docupak's administration of Army and National Guard recruitment programs.

Docupak is a private company that was hired to administer the Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program.

The judge said the defendants have frequently brought motions to dismiss, but the lines of attack have not all been the same and the district courts have not been uniform in their grounds for

Golf tourney this Saturday to benefit JKPL

Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be holding its 2nd JKPL Fundraising Golf Tournament at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort west course this Saturday, Nov. 12.

The tournament will be a Double Peoria tournament and entry fee is \$100 per player. Show time is 6:30am, while tee time is at 7:30am. Cash prizes include \$300 for first place, \$250 for second, \$200 for third, \$150 for fourth, and \$100 for fifth.

Side games, at the cost of \$20, consists of \$200 prizes for closest to the pin on holes No. 3, 7, 13, 17 and longest

denying the motions.

Manglona said she is unaware of any controlling precedent on point in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Last May 26, a federal jury reached a unanimous verdict, finding Jucutan guilty of four counts of wire fraud and four counts of aggravated identity theft, in connection with the scheme to defraud the Army Reserves Recruiter Assistant Program.

Last Oct. 13, U.S. District Court for the NMI Senior Judge Alex R. Munson, who presided over the trial, sentenced Jucutan to two years and four months in prison.

He is to report to the U.S. Marshal's Service on Nov. 14, 2016, to start serving his prison term.

Jucutan, through counsel David Banes, appealed to the Ninth Circuit to have his conviction and sentence reversed.

Jucutan moved for his continued release pending his appeal. The U.S. government did not oppose Jucutan's motion.

In granting Jucutan's request, Manglona said she finds by clear and convincing

drive on hole No. 10. The hole-in-one prize will be a brand new car as well as a \$5,000 cash prize.

All proceeds will benefit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Resource and Collection Development, Circulation Materials, and Library Programs.

Tickets may be purchased either at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library or any member of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. Cash or check is accepted by to Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, while credit card payments are accepted at Laolao Bay Golf and Resort. (Michael T. Santos)

evidence that Jucutan is not a flight risk or a danger to anyone in the community and that he has no history of violent behavior or drug use.

Furthermore, the judge said the appeal raises a substantial question of law that, if the court of appeals finds in Jucutan's favor, will result in reversal.

Manglona previously refused from presiding over the case because of a conflict involving Jucutan's then-counsel Pamela Brown.

Because Jucutan now has new counsel, Banes, for the appeal of this case, Manglona reassigned the matter to herself.

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'Live Your Dream' recipient Reyes never quits

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rachel Ashley Reyes has experienced a lot of challenges in her young life but she won't just go down without a fight and would try her best to hurdle every obstacle for the sake of her family. The 26-year-old is this year's recipient of the Live Your Dream Award given by the Soroptimist International of the Northern Mariana Islands.

SINMI president and former CNMI attorney general Pam Brown announced Reyes as the recipient of the award in last Saturday's event held at the Seaside Hall of the Kanoa Resort. CNMI Public School System student and Support Service associate commissioner Yvonne R. Pangelinan, who also became PSS' acting education commissioner, was guest speaker.

The Live Your Dream award, now on its fourth year of supporting women on Saipan, is given to a woman who is attending college and is her family's sole financial supporter.

She said that she uses

10 students prepare for upcoming Japan trip

The Saipan Mayor Office, in conjunction with Kokusai Seishonen Kenshu Kyokai, has organized its 33rd study trip to Japan.

Students, all mixed in terms of age, gender, and schools, will depart for Narita airport on Nov. 9 and return to Saipan on Nov. 15. Participants will be able to live with their host families, visit the Ueno Zoo, and have a trip to Tokyo Disneyland—maintaining pleasant ties with the Japanese community as well as promoting the island of Saipan.

Yuki Kishimoto, student exchange program coordinator, said, "We want the students of Saipan to experience distant



Live Your Dream Award recipient Rachel Ashley Reyes, left, speaks in front of members of the Soroptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands as group president Pam Brown listens in last Saturday's event at the Seaside Hall of the Kanoa Resort.

JON PEREZ

her daughter and family to inspire her to keep going. "Sometimes I say to myself, 'I need to keep on going.' Other people also tell me that they don't how could I do it and they don't know how do I manage to keep on going. But then, I feel that, as single mothers like me, we don't have a choice. We have to do it for our kids. I don't give myself the choice of quitting.

I have to work hard because it is not me that I'm trying to please or make happy, but my daughter and parents."

She advises struggling single mothers and other women in the CNMI to always stay strong. "Just be strong and take advantage of all the resources that are available to you. The hardships are always temporary and there's always an end result. And this would

please you and your family."

Reyes is an education major at the Northern Marianas College and is set to graduate in May 2017. She took

up nursing for three years at Concordia University in Portland, Oregon but had to stop and moved back to Saipan in 2013.

PSS to celebrate 28 years of public education

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In celebration of 28 years of public education, the CNMI Public School System proclaimed November as Education Month and Nov. 23 as Education Day last Nov. 4 at the Pacific Islands Club annex.

Serving as the state education agency for elementary and secondary programs for 6- to 16-year-old students, PSS believes that creating an academic and emotionally nurturing environment, which offers equal educational opportunity, is essential for the development of a student's character and skill.

Acting PSS commissioner Glenn Muna said that Education Day would differ slightly

among the main islands of the CNMI. "For Education Day, we have three days for Saipan, Rota, and Tinian," he said.

The Saipan celebration will occur on Nov. 23, the one on Rota will take place on Nov. 21, and the one on Tinian will occur on Nov. 22.

According to Muna, the month's theme was an idea offered by Abrosio Alubia, a sixth grader from Rota, while the logo for the month is an idea from Kazmy Porras, an eighth grader from Saipan.

"The winning theme is from Rota's Sinapalo Elementary School's Abrosio Alubia, which is "Plant the seeds of knowledge, harvest the fruit of success." Our winning logo came from Dandan Middle School's Kazmy Porras. We

"I had to start over again. I really need help since federal financial aid is limited to only six years. I need help to pay for my last semester. I can use it for my tuition, books, and daycare for my daughter. I'm thankful for this scholarship for single moms," she added.

This is the second time that Reyes applied for the Live Your Dream Award. "I applied last year but I was late and also had some missing documents. Jill [Arenovski] advised me to apply again. As much as I try to work, I still need assistance since it is not enough to pay for everything."

She would start being a student teacher next semester. "You will spend the whole day inside the classroom, from the beginning of classes to dismissal. It is different from practicum where you are only there for a few hours."

cultures and offer both Japan and Saipan students [a chance] to share a mutual understanding of one another."

"Students are expected to make new friends as well as long-term relationships with the residents of Japan. The trip also promotes our island, thanks to the students doing a cultural/traditional presentation during the farewell party."

Luise Villagomez, Saipan Mayor's Office staff, said, "The goal of the trip is to also keep relationship ties with Japan and Saipan going and promote overall goodwill. The students, in a sense, are basically heading there as friendship ambassadors."

Students participating in the

study trip to Japan are Hannah Tenorio and Zared Nekaifes, two fifth graders from Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School; Camille Hocog a sixth grader from Dandan Middle School; Silas Xu, seventh grader, and Tychicus Xu, eighth grader, from Agape Christian School; De Faustina Camacho, freshman, Gedin Cabrera, junior, and Hector Efraim, senior, from Kagman High School; and two seniors from Saipan Southern High School: Reynafe Aniga and Chrystalle Lloren.

For information about upcoming trips the Saipan Mayor's Office is planning, call 234-6208. (Michael T. Santos)

USS Frank Cable returns from regional deployment

SANTA RITA, Guam—Submarine tender USS *Frank Cable* is scheduled to return from its first major deployment in 14 years to U.S. Naval Base Guam on Nov. 8, after a five-month deployment.

Frank Cable, which departed Guam on June 6, will conclude a deployment to the Indo-Asia-Pacific region and U.S. Central Command area of operations—providing vital flexibility to fleet commanders and extending the range and impact of U.S. naval forces in the U.S. Navy's 5th and 7th Fleet area of operations.

"With great pride I watched the combined Navy and [Military Sealift Command] crew of USS *Frank Cable* rise to every challenge as they demonstrated the flexibility and capability of a submarine tender," said Capt. Drew St. John,

Frank Cable's commanding officer. "Through their dedication and hard work this ship successfully supported the ships and submarines of both the 5th and 7th Fleets, demonstrating more than ever the relevancy of the submarine tender to today's security environment. Their actions ensured our naval combatants were ready to 'fight tonight.'"

USS *Frank Cable* performed a variety of tasks and made some significant milestones during the deployment:

- *Frank Cable* was a persistent presence throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region, where the crew performed more than 10 community relations events designed to deepen the crew's understanding of other cultures and to build friendships with host nations.
- The Repair Department

provided support to submarine and surface ships, providing vital flexibility to the fleet commanders, extending the range and impact of U.S. naval forces in the U.S. Navy's 5th and 7th Fleets.

■ First ship since 1973 to dock in Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, during the Vietnam Conflict.

■ *Frank Cable* sailed more than 18,173 nautical miles on this deployment.

■ Conducted port visits in the Philippines, Diego Garcia, India, United Arab Emirates, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Japan.

Frank Cable Public Affairs Office will also stream the event on Facebook Live at www.facebook.com/FrankCableAS40. Watch, listen, share the event, and even comment as the crew mans the rails and transits into Apra Harbor. (USN)

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Gender training for regional police starts

NADI, Fiji—A workshop for Pacific police officers on gender, violence against women and legislation related to gender-based violence opened in Nadi yesterday morning.

Funded by the Australian Federal Police and facilitated by the Fiji Women's Crisis Center, this is the fourth workshop in a series aimed at building understanding among police officers around the region of the dynamics of violence against women.

The training, conducted over the next two weeks, also aims to improve the skills and sensitivity of Pacific police officers in responding appropriately to female survivors reporting gender-based violence.

Thirty officers representing 11 countries are taking part in the training at Hexagon Hotel in Nadi.

Research into the preva-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pacific police officers undergo a seminar on gender, violence against women in Nadi yesterday morning.

The officers have a broad range of experience—from a few years to long-serving officers—and work in the sexual and domestic violence units of their countries' police forces.

One officer acknowledged violence against women and girls as an "issue that is eating up the Pacific."

The session yesterday included learning about how the "genderization process" conditions men and women to accept and perpetuate stereotypes about what is expected of women and men, and how these contribute to gender inequality and violence against women.

The workshop ends on Friday, Nov. 18. **(PR)**

lence of violence against women shows Pacific countries have some of the highest rates in the world.

In the introductory session, the officers spoke of the challenges of responding to violence against women and

dealing with survivors in their countries.

Officers expressed a desire to understand the causes

of violence against women and why women who report offenses against them often withdraw their complaints.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Students from Chiba Institute of Technology in Japan pose with senior English major Angelenne Serafico during an island tour as part of the University of Guam English Adventure Program.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
International Friendship Club member Ray Cabral shows students from Chiba Institute of Technology in Japan how to make coconut candy during a beach day outing—one of the many aspects of the English Adventure Program.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Students from Chiba Institute of Technology in Japan try using the *kamyu*—or coconut grater—during a demonstration held on a beach day offered by the University of Guam English Adventure Program.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
University of Guam senior vice president of Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez accepts the Innovation and Excellence in International Education Award by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in a ceremony on Oct. 30 in Miami, Florida.



UOG English Adventure Program Earns AASCU International Education Award

For its development, success, and continued growth of its English Adventure Program, the University of Guam Professional and International Programs office received the Innovation and Excellence in International Education Award by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in a ceremony on Oct. 30 in Miami, Florida.

The AASCU award honors member institutions for excellence and innovation in major areas of campus life and leadership, and because of its public-private partnerships; financial benefit to the university; and most importantly, its cultural and educational development for both local and international students, AASCU chose to highlight and honor UOG's English Adventure Program.

"Innovation at America's state colleges and universities is focused on advancing the quality of the educational experience for their students and the distinction of their institutions in service to their communities," said AASCU president Muriel A. Howard. "The programs for which these universities are being honored will inspire not only their AASCU colleagues, but all of higher education."

"Receiving the AASCU award in International Education is a huge honor," said Professional and International Program's director Carlos Taitano. "We're a small institution in a very remote place in the Pacific,

and to be nationally recognized for all of our hard work means a lot. It is a badge of honor that we can now take to all of our partner institutions and show them that we are a world-class program."

The University of Guam's English Adventure Program offers short-term English and culture programs to cohorts of students from schools and universities in Asia. In 2008, 518 international students participated in the program. In 2015, EAP grew by 925 percent, with over 5,000 students attending. Just this fall, Taitano says nearly 4,000 international students will attend the program.

By leveraging the university's proximity to Asian countries and partnering with institutions in South Korea and Japan looking to expand their study abroad opportunities, PIP has been able to market the UOG as a destination campus. PIP has also established a travel scholarship that provides UOG students with funds for educational exchange with 24 partner universities in Asia.

"Because of the two-way exchange, we now have more international students coming to the university, and our students can also earn credit from other institutions in Japan, Korea, and China," Taitano said.

For more information on the English Adventure Program, contact Taitano at 735-2600 or visit www.uog.edu/eap. **(UoG)**

Customs prepares for expected influx of tourists

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Division of Customs Services is being beefed up in preparation for the influx of tourists to the Commonwealth, buoyed by new airlines coming in and an increase in the number of flights to Saipan.

Division director Jose C. Mafnas said that Customs personnel went through two trainings in the last two weeks from Oceania Customs Organization operations manager Tevita Tupuo and Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho.

Mafnas said further planning is needed to avoid long lines and overcrowding at the airport during arrivals and departures.

"We are already foresee-

ing a further increase in passengers with the new airlines coming to Saipan. We're preparing ourselves, so we don't get crowded or cramped up with passengers at the airport," he said. "In order for us to achieve that, we need to have proper equipment and training for our officers. Right now we're looking for more portable equipment and for drug protection. We're also researching on what equipment we're going to need for the airport and seaports to facilitate passengers."

Mafnas said that they are also waiting for a report done by a firm hired by the Marianas Visitors Authority.

"The MVA has hired a firm to do a study on the projection of the number of passengers that would be entering Saipan



Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho holds a training for customs personnel of the Division of Customs Services at the Northern Marianas College.

JON PEREZ

in the next five years," Mafnas said. "And I'm waiting for that report, so we could make

a final decision on how many more officers are we going to hire and train to work in se-

curing our ports. We already hired eight, with two for Tinian and Rota, to also prepare

for the new flights."

Two weeks ago, Camacho helped train Customs officers and cadets in the proper way of searching and seizure, and understanding probable cause. The cadets are from the sixth cycle.

"Basically we invited Judge Camacho to impart to our officers the basics of enforcement. This is just updating our officers who work at our ports of entry to make sure they are confident and have the knowledge if what they're doing in enforcement is right," said Mafnas.

"They would know what to do when they stand behind a counter and find something. From the process of preparing the case, to have them be confident as a Customs officers and know their duties and responsibilities."

Employment opportunity at the park

National Park Service officials would like to inform the public of career opportunities at the American Memorial Park.

The park just opened a vacancy announcement for a full-time term position, park ranger. This position will be filled under the contiguous-to-the-area appointing authority for the American Memorial Park. Applications will be accepted only from individuals who have maintained a permanent exclusive residence on Saipan for a

minimum of two years. The salary begins at \$32,318 per year, plus 13.70 percent cost of living allowance and federal benefits.

Duties for this position include, but are not limited to: Performing opening and closing of visitor center; informing visitors about park facilities and resources; operating a variety of audiovisual and other equipment used in connection with interpretive material; conducting basic research of topics to pro-

vide interpretive programs; presenting a variety of formal and informal programs including orientation talks, environmental education programs, conducted walks, demonstrations and campfire programs; coordinating the park permit program; updating and maintaining social media and park website and performing various administrative duties such as scheduling, compilation of statistical data, etc.

The vacancy is open from

Nov. 7 to Nov. 14.

Federal jobs are posted at www.USAJOBS.gov. If you do not have a current USAJOBS account, you will need to create one online at <https://login.usajobs.gov/Account/Create>

Keep in mind that all applicants must submit a resume, and include other pertinent information, e.g., SF 50, DD 214, etc., to be considered. It is important that you follow instructions as provided on the announcement. Applications must be received prior to 11:59pm (EST) of the closing date of the announcement in

order to be considered.

Instructions for an alternate way to submit the application (via fax) is listed in the vacancy announcement.

Applicants are encouraged to review their applications once they've submitted their package (clicked "Submit My Answers" button) to ensure that everything is correct and has been processed.

To verify your application is complete, log into your USAJOBS account, <https://my.usajobs.gov/Account/Login>. Select the Application Status link and select the more information link for this

position. The Details page will display the status of your application, the documentation received and processed, and any correspondence the agency has sent related to this application. Your uploaded documents may take several hours to clear the virus scan process. To return to an incomplete application, log into your USAJOBS account and click Update Application in the vacancy announcement. You must re-select your resume and/or other documents from your USAJOBS account or your application will be incomplete. (NPS)



Mount Carmel speakers, debaters shine in contests

Mount Carmel School's speech and debate Knights have their picture taken after the National Speech & Debate Association and National Junior Speech & Debate Association events on Oct. 22.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to Mount Carmel School's speech and debate Knights for their performance at the Oct. 22 meet for the National Speech & Debate Association and National Junior Speech & Debate Association:

NSDA

■ Borja Kalea B. (IMP, PO, CH)
3rd place IMP A
3rd place PO A

3rd place CH Event

■ Paraiso Joanie Santos (DI, ST, PO, PR)
2nd place DI
5th place ST
3rd place PO MA

H022 1st place USX

1st place COM
2nd place IMP A
5th place PO MA

■ Javier Lleyton Andre (IMP, PO, PR)
1st place IMP D

■ Ham Jim Michael Vergara (IMP, PO, PR)
2nd place IMP D
5th place PO A
5th place PR A

■ Ramirez Reica A (FX, IMP, PO)
2nd place FX

3rd place PR MA
4th place IMP A

NJSDA

■ Minami William Kazuki (Extemp, DUO, HI)
3rd place Extemp

■ Marcelo Bernard Angelo Abad (POMA, HIB, PRM)
2nd place HI B
3rd place PO MA

■ Kiser, Renee Marie (ST C, PO A, PR)
2nd place PO A
3rd place ST C

■ Cabrera, Kyla Monique Bullan (POA, Imp, PR)
1st place PO A

■ Baldazo, Keehara Nielsen Valdez (ST C, PO, PR)
3rd place PO C

4th place ST C

■ Kang Kevin (PO C, ST A, PR A)
2nd place PR A
3rd place ST A
5th place PO C

■ Sato Maaya (DUO, DI, ST)
5th place DI

Coaches/advisers: Filmah Buenaflor and Toby Smith

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

The Cuba conundrum: Engagement vs embargo

A growing numbers Americans are invading Havana's Malecon—jogging, strolling and dancing to rumba buskers as waves pound the seawall. Cohibas clenched in teeth, they're toting away bottles of Havana Club rum, filling up Airbnb rooms and flying back to the states on JetBlue. U.S. hotel chains are planting stakes, as trade missions staffed by politicians and businesspeople stream in and out.

Momentum is building in the ongoing detente between the U.S. and Cuba. Yet, something still isn't right.

The economic embargo that the U.S. imposed on the Castro regime more than five decades ago remains in place. It's an anachronism that simply doesn't make sense to enforce any more, a formidable barrier to unfettered trade between two nations normalizing a once frozen relationship.

Last week, the U.S. abstained from an annual United Nations resolution condemning the embargo, the first time in 25 years that Washington has not voted against the resolution. The U.N. vote has always been a nonbinding, symbolic gesture that essentially allowed Cuba to show how alone America is in its policies toward Cuba. In the past, only Israel has joined the U.S. in its opposition to the resolution.

The abstention falls in line with a series of groundbreaking moves that President Barack Obama has made over the past two years to resurrect diplomatic ties with Cuba. Those moves include the reopening of embassies in each other's countries, the resumption of commercial flights, an easing of restrictions on U.S. computer and telecommunications technology to Cuba, and even an end to limits on Cuban rum and cigars Americans can bring back from Cuba.

Obama has done all this through his executive powers, but that's as far as he can go. The embargo falls under purview of the Republican-controlled Congress. The GOP has insisted the embargo will be lifted only after Cuba's government has been ousted and its leaders held accountable for human rights violations. The embargo is 55 years old now, and it hasn't loosened the Castro government's grip on Cuba at all.

A remnant of the Cold War, the embargo has no place in a Cuba today on the cusp of transformation. At the core of Obama's policy toward Cuba is this choice: Engage rather than alienate. It's true, the Castro regime continues to trample human rights and stifle dissent, but the Castro brothers and their lieutenants are growing old. A new generation of leaders will take the helm in Havana, and a policy of isolation by the U.S. doesn't make sense when the rest of the world trades freely with Cuba. Economic engagement is the better tack.

(c)2016 Chicago Tribune



A very cool nutrient

What if I told you that there was a little-known nutrient that would not only firm up your saggy facial skin, get rid of age spots, help your heart, and boost your brain power as well. Interested?

DMAE (dimethylaminoethanol) is something that every person over 40 should know about because it can work wonders and in a variety of ways.

"A prescription form of DMAE, called Deaner or Deanol, was already in use in the 1960s and 1970s for the treatment of learning and behavioral problems associated with shortened attention span. As early as 1959, treatment with DMAE was demonstrated to result in significantly improved test scores. A 1974 report on DMAE focused on two 10-week, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials involving 124 children with ADHD-related diagnoses. In one of these trials, positive results using DMAE were comparable to those using Ritalin. Similar positive results were also seen in a 1975 study, wherein a placebo-controlled trial in 74 children found that DMAE at 500mg daily was as effective as methylphenidate.

"In 1983, the FDA insisted on additional studies to prove the effectiveness of Deaner. Because the clinical trials would have been more expensive than the product's sales could support, Deaner was taken off the market. DMAE, however, has continued to be available as a natural nutritional supplement, and is a subject of more recent investigations into so-called 'smart drugs.'

"Given the ever-increasing pressures to achieve in modern society, it was only natural that a compound long used to treat brain dysfunction and memory disorders would be explored for its potential use as a memory enhancer and brain 'booster.'

"Research has shown that DMAE's cholinergic effects help produce brain chemicals such as acetylcholine that are necessary for mental sharpness. Some individuals accordingly report that DMAE supplementation causes a noticeable boost in their ability to concentrate. DMAE users also routinely report better memory (especially short-term memory), as well as improved focus, mental clarity, and sleep patterns, all of which may be particularly valuable for those who work in high-pressure or deadline-oriented environments.

"Many nutritionally aware physicians routinely prescribe DMAE in combination with additional memory enhancers such as phosphatidylcholine, a dietary supplement. DMAE's action as an acetylcholine precursor may help with the memory lapses that commonly occur with normal aging.

By **RUSS MASON, M.S.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, *Alternative & Complementary Therapies*. His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.



Healing Properties

"Other aspects of the human aging process tend to be more visible than memory lapses. Treatment for sagging skin has become a multibillion-dollar industry, as growing numbers of older adults undergo expensive (and often recurrent) invasive surgical procedures. Recent studies involving a gel formulation containing DMAE have shown that the compound can increase skin firmness, even in younger subjects. Thirty healthy adults between the ages of 36 and 49 were given tests that measured changes in skin tautness after application with the DMAE gel, compared to placebo. Results indicated that the placebo had little or no effect on skin firmness, while the DMAE-treated skin exhibited greater tautness.

"Researchers offer two possible explanations for these results. First, DMAE may enhance water retention in connective skin tissue, causing the surface of the skin to tighten. The second, and more likely, explanation involves DMAE's cholinergic feature, which enhances the skin's ability to transmit acetylcholine. The neurotransmitter's function in sending signals from nerves to muscles may promote a form of muscle tightening in the skin. It is important to note that although DMAE cannot fully reverse existing facial sagging, it may reduce its further progression. Some people report a cumulative effect with continued use of the compound.

"Age spots, or 'liver spots,' also may respond effectively to DMAE in cream, gel, or tablet form. Studies have shown that DMAE's membrane-stabilizing properties reduced the accumulation of lipofuscin deposits inside cells. Lipofuscin, a brownish cellular pigment consisting of aggregated chunks of molecular waste formed by the inefficient metabolism of fatty acids, tends to occur in the cells of older people and is primarily responsible for age spots. DMAE has been shown to flush excess lipofuscin from affected skin cells."

See **NUTRIENT** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

‘Withdraw party’s support for Trump’

By MAISIE B. TENORIO and EULALIA V. ARRIOLA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Dear Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and CNMI Republican Party chair James Ada: *Hafa adai and Tirow*. On behalf of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, its board of directors, membership, and constituents, we are writing to request that the CNMI Republican Party rescind its endorsement of Donald Trump, the Republican candidate for President of the United States of America.

While we as a community-based, anti-violence organization choose not to be associated with any political party, we must voice how strongly we feel that leaders, local and national, should honor the dignity of all its citizens, particularly those who are most vulnerable to violence and abuse. We believe that leaders must uphold the values that are true to the culture of its people and allow for safety to flourish in their communities. We also believe that our leaders must demand these values from those they align themselves with—else they cannot demand them of their people.

We are concerned that aligning ourselves with Mr. Trump reflects a blatant disregard for the experiences of victims of sexual assault in the CNMI. No benefit from maintaining this endorse-

ment can be so great as to risk this.

Throughout his campaign, Mr. Trump has revealed his propensity toward sexually predatory behavior, not only his use of language that condones and normalizes sexual assault but in the inappropriate ways he has talked about his own daughter and in the way he boasted about sexually assaulting women. Mr. Trump’s behavior is especially dangerous and harmful because he yields incredible power and influence. This power and influence has allowed him to share his attitude all over the globe—impacting the way people treat each other and triggering survivors of sexual assault.

After decades of studying sexual violence, experts have come to understand that the cycle of sexual violence—the way sexual violence is perpetuated from one generation to the next—lies partly in the way it is normalized, minimized, and even glorified. This happens when people, intentionally or unintentionally, joke about rape, normalize male sexual aggression as “locker room talk,” demean girls and women, blame victims for their behavior and so on. It follows then that Mr. Trump’s thoughts, language, and behavior are certainly contributing to the cycle of sexual violence. But we know that you understand this.

In the statement released by the CNMI Republican Party following the media coverage on the remarks made by Mr. Trump in 2005 where he boasted about sexually assaulting women, you called his remarks “distasteful” and “disrespectful.” The Party further stated that it was “...unconditionally committed to stopping sexual harassment/violence in all forms.” An unconditional commitment means that one’s commitment is absolute and without conditions. It also means that “stopping sexual harassment/violence in all forms” is an unequivocal priority for the CNMI Republican Party and for our current administration.

Therefore, we ask that the CNMI Republican Party, under the leadership of our governor, honors its stated unconditional commitment and withdraw its endorsement of Mr. Trump. We believe it is the right thing to do in recognizing the need to hold perpetrators accountable and reaffirm the trauma experienced by victims of sexual violence.

The CNMI Republican Party’s endorsement of Mr. Trump is harmful for our community. Currently, survivors of violence and abuse in our community feel like those in power either do not

see their pain and suffering, or see it but do not care. Recent high-profile cases, including a top law enforcement official admitting to have sex with a minor (he denies knowing she was a minor) and irresponsible rhetoric from the judicial bench that declared teenagers who do not consent to sex have no legal recourse (this order was overturned), have left many in our community, especially survivors of sexual assault, feeling like there is no hope. When events such as these occur, survivors are silenced. These events give survivors a sense that being violated and humiliated is a burden that they must bear alone. There is no recourse. There is no justice. There is no hope. These events tell survivors that despite their best efforts to seek truth and justice, their cries for help will not be heard by those who hold the power to make change.

How can the standard of living for anyone in the CNMI be improved if we continue to support those who have blatantly chosen to use their power to perpetuate sexual violence?

Gov. Torres and Chairman Ada, in order to stop “...sexual harassment/violence in all forms” we must be willing to stand up against those who perpetuate the belief systems that allow sexual violence to exist, people like Mr. Trump. We must work to shatter the idea that men in power can treat women and girls in any way they please, even if it is criminal. We must discredit the ideas that men who abuse and violate others will be rewarded, supported, and endorsed by other men in power.

In Gov. Torres’ remarks at the 2016 Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing ceremony, he called on the community to report violence when they see it. We are now calling on you to lead by example. Choose to stand with us. Choose to embody the values that we hold true as people. Choose to be a voice for all those silenced by sexual violence.

We strongly urge the CNMI Republican Party and the current administration to formally withdraw its endorsement of Mr. Donald Trump.

Please feel free to contact me at maisie@endviolencenmi.org or at (670) 234-3878 should you have any questions or for further discussion.

Tenorio is the executive director of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, while Arriola is chairperson of its board of directors.

NUTRIENT

From Page 10

Age spots are one of the nasty side effects of getting old. A topical application of DMAE cream or lotion can help get rid of them.

“DMAE is a potent, site-specific free radical scavenger. An in-vitro study found that adding DMAE to myocytes (the heart’s pumping cells) protected individuals from cell damage resulting from ischemia, a lack of oxygen and blood flow to the heart, and from metabolic inhibition. Taken in the proper dosage, DMAE’s antioxidant effects can offer probable benefits of value in the maintenance of overall cellular health.”

The text quoted above was taken from *LifeExtension* magazine.

DMAE is probably not available locally; this means you’ll have to order it online.

It’s a little tricky because there are topical lotions that you can apply directly to your face, in order to tighten the skin and remove age spots; but the caps (or powder) you take internally will improve mental function and clarity, as well as helping your heart.

So there are a couple of ways to take DMAE.

I have had no experience whatsoever with the facial crèmes, and there are a lot of them on eBay. The prices vary, as do the formulations. Some contain a compound called hylauronic acid (which is beneficial); others contain other ingredients, such as moisturizers. Read the descriptions carefully, and be sure to check if the seller has 100 percent positive feedback.

Many of these products (both the internal and the external) are available from swansonvitamins.com – a Website I heartily recommend. They have thousands of products, and ship quickly (shipping, regardless of size of the order, is \$8.99 from North Dakota to the CNMI).

One thing I do, and have done for years, is to make a morning “cocktail” of nutrients. This has been of great help to me and also to my wife.

I ordered some DMAE powder, in order to give my brain power a little boost, and also to help my wife, who has occasional memory lapses and lack of focus.

My wife is from China, and I think years of eating Chinese food—usually with added MSG (monosodium glutamate—aka “wei jing”) messed up her brain.

If you want your brain to be in peak form, avoid MSG/wei jing as much as possible. Yes, it enhances the flavor, but it fogs your brain—especially if it’s been part of your diet for years.

I can’t say that taking DMAE will reverse, or even counter, the negative effects of MSG, but if it improves brain function and mental clarity, then I’m all for it. And if the crème makes my age spots go away, I’ll become a spring chicken again. Maybe.

Give more adolescents the right to vote

I’ve been advocating a lower voting age for some time, but it always seemed a theoretical exercise. Residents of San Francisco on Tuesday have a chance to make it a reality if they support Proposition F, which would lower the voting age for local elections to 16.

It has a good chance of passing: The only recent poll shows that a slim plurality favor the measure. (Full disclosure: My sister is a partner in EMC Research, which published the poll.)

San Francisco would be the third U.S. city to lower the voting age to 16, after two Maryland suburbs, Takoma Park and Hyattsville, took the plunge in 2013 and 2015, respectively. As the first large city to take this step, San Francisco would encourage others to consider following.

It’s even possible to imagine a full state going along, meaning that 16-year-olds could vote in national elections, too, since states are in charge of the electoral system. The 26th Amendment to the Constitution only says that the minimum voting age cannot be set higher than 18; governments are free to go lower than that.

They should.

We believe in universal voting rights for two reasons: All citizens should be able to support their own interests, and all citizens should be able to enjoy self-government. Both apply as much for 16-year-olds, or even 14-year-olds, as they do for those who are 18 or 21 or, for that matter, 50.

The practical reason for giving more teenagers the franchise is that voting and not voting are habit-forming. As it stands, 18 is an unfortunate age for first eligibility. People tend to vote more if they have stable lives rooted in their communities, and this isn’t a great description for many people who are 18 to 21.

In addition, teenagers already participate in politics. When I was in Des Moines for the Iowa caucuses earlier this year, I met

By JONATHAN BERNSTEIN
Bloomberg View

This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial board or Bloomberg LP and its owners.



several high school students who had traveled there to work at the phone banks and walk the precincts for the candidates they supported. I’ve seen too-young-to-vote volunteers in many other campaigns, from mayoral races on up. No one would ever try to ban that participation, which can have far more impact on an election’s outcome than an individual’s vote. Yet those same young citizens are denied the franchise.

Yes, I know what you’re thinking: Most teenagers would vote however their parents told them to. And yes, many teenagers would be uninformed and malleable. But just as many adults are uninformed and vote reflexively for the party their parents supported. Maybe young teenagers wouldn’t make the most sophisticated choices. But we value democracy not because it produces the “best” policy. Sometimes it doesn’t. The value is in giving all interests a say in government decisions and providing an opportunity for political participation.

If it were up to me, I’d lower the voting age to at least 14, so that everyone would have an opportunity to cast at least one ballot for president before graduating from high school. Presidential elections are the best mobilizers to make voting a habit.

San Francisco isn’t going that far. But 16 is better than 18. The question then will be: Who is next?

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY

Partly sunny with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.

▲88° ▼79°

WEDNESDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.

▲89° ▼79°

THURSDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼79°

FRIDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

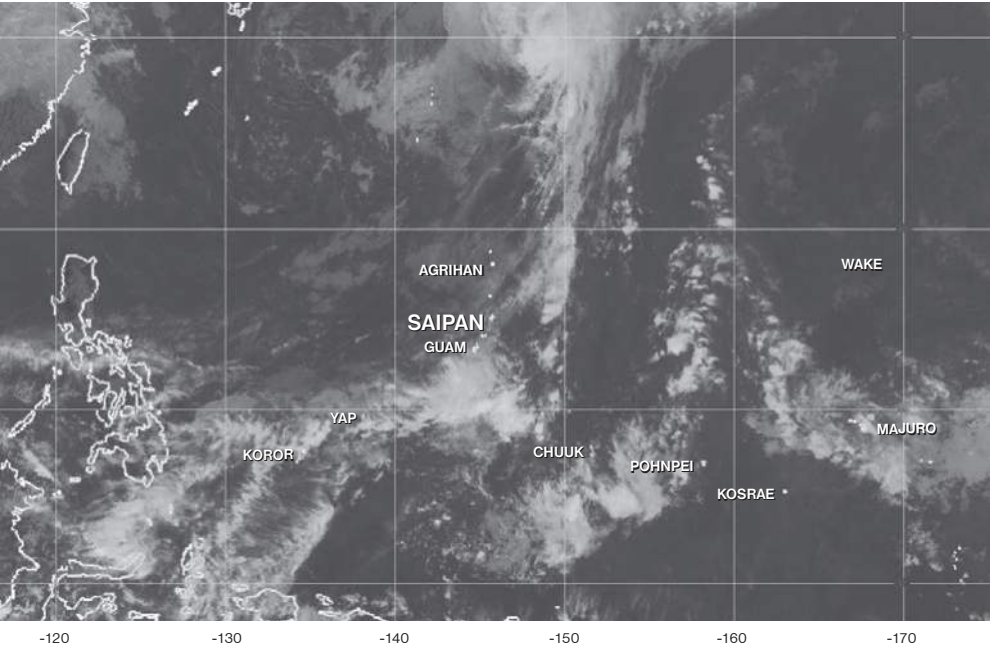
▲89° ▼79°

SATURDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:45 AM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Meari continues to move farther northeast, away from the Marianas. This has allowed winds to subside to moderate for today. Scattered showers continue to develop over southern Guam waters and move northward over the island. This trend is expected to continue through the morning, then showers should be decreasing to isolated near noon. Otherwise, isolated showers are seen from Rota northward to Saipan. As Meari continues to move away from the region, dragging the monsoon trough farther north, weak ridging will build into the area. This will usher in a drier pattern that will last through the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Afternoon clouds	80 / 87 °F
Palau	Partly cloudy	82 / 88 °F
Yap	Partly sunny	79 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Mostly cloudy	79 / 86 °F
Pohnpei	Heavy rain	76 / 87 °F
Kosrae	Partly cloudy	82 / 86 °F
Majuro	Partly cloudy	80 / 85 °F
AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Partly cloudy	58 / 68 °F
Beijing	Sunny	29 / 49 °F
Hong Kong	Partly cloudy	69 / 82 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	70 / 79 °F
London	Scattered clouds	35 / 45 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	62 / 86 °F
Manila	Partly cloudy	77 / 88 °F
Melbourne	Mostly sunny	50 / 62 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	72 / 78 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	40 / 63 °F
Osaka	Afternoon clouds	52 / 63 °F
Paris	Morning clouds	36 / 47 °F
Pusan	Decreasing cloudiness	42 / 59 °F
Rome	High level clouds	50 / 61 °F
Salem	Morning clouds	49 / 65 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	57 / 70 °F
Seoul	Sunny	32 / 47 °F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	43 / 58 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	35 / 66 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
12:02 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.45 Feet
7:21 AM	LOW TIDE	0.18 Feet
2:39 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.82 Feet
8:59 PM	LOW TIDE	1.02 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Wednesday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	12:47 PM	-
Wednesday	1:33 PM	12:42 AM
Thursday	2:19 PM	1:37 AM
Friday	3:06 PM	2:34 AM
Saturday	3:54 PM	3:32 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily			
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat						
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily						
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily						
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily						
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily						
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily						
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily						
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily						
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily						
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily						
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily						
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						

SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily			
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			

SAIPAN TO ROTA					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			

ROTA TO SAIPAN					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			

All Souls' Day 2016



People gather for All Souls' Day at the Tanapag cemetery.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Families gather at the Tanapag cemetery to commemorate their departed loved ones.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Two teens prepare for the ceremony at the Tanapag cemetery.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



A woman tidies up the wreath placed on her relative's grave.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



A man and his daughter begin to set up a tent around their family's gravesite at the Tanapag cemetery.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



A woman lights up multiple candles in respect to a loved one.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Family members wait for prayers, in honor of the departed souls, to commence at the Tanapag cemetery.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Attendees of the event begin to pray for all souls of the dead.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Two men work together to place a wreath along with a wire to prevent it from flying away.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS



Members of one family huddle together to pay tribute to those who have passed on.
MICHAEL T. SANTOS

Business

Samsung to offer digital assistant service in Galaxy S8

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Samsung Electronics said Sunday it will offer an artificial intelligence assistant service in the upcoming flagship smartphone, as the South Korean firm seeks recovery from its global smartphone recalls.

The Galaxy S8 will let users order food or perform other tasks without going through a third-party application but by simply asking the phone's virtual assistant, Samsung said in a statement. The artificial intelligence service will also be made available in Samsung's other consumer electronics products, such as refrigerators.

The company declined to disclose what specific tasks the S8 phone will perform through its artificial intelligence feature.

Samsung is expected to unveil the next iteration for its flagship Galaxy device in spring as it has typically done in the past. Sales of the Galaxy S8 will be crucial for the recovery of Samsung's mobile business, which saw its latest quarterly profit nearly wiped out by two global recalls of the Galaxy Note 7 smartphone. Samsung estimates it has lost at least \$5.3 billion as it discontinued the model, which overheated and caught fire.

The company said last



month that it has not figured out what went wrong with the Note 7 phones.

The South Korean company joined the race to create the digital assistant service when it acquired in October Viv Labs Inc., a Silicon Valley startup launched by the same entrepreneurs who sold Siri to Apple. Past and cur-

rent Samsung phones offer a voice assistant service called "S Voice" developed internally, but the feature did not gain much traction.

Samsung's acquisition of the Silicon Valley firm was seen as its taking another step to seek independence from Google, which offers its brand of virtual assistant service in

Germany expands diesel probe to include VW board chairman

BERLIN (AP)—German prosecutors have widened their investigation into Volkswagen's handling of the emissions scandal to include its board chairman, Hans Dieter Poetsch, the company said Sunday.

Poetsch was VW's chief financial officer when the company's efforts to rig cars to cheat on U.S. diesel emissions tests became public in September 2015.

Volkswagen said in a statement that prosecutors in the German city of Braunschweig are investigating three members of the board including Poetsch. Prosecutors were already investigating former Volkswagen CEO Martin Winterkorn and VW brand chief Herbert Diess over al-

legations they didn't inform investors soon enough.

VW rejects those allegations.

"Based on careful examination by internal and external legal experts, the company reaffirms its belief that the Volkswagen board of management duly fulfilled its disclosure obligation under German capital markets law," it said in the statement Sunday.

The company said VW and Poetsch would "continue to give the inquiries by the public prosecutor's office their full support."

German law requires publicly traded companies to alert investors as soon as they become aware of unforeseen developments that could af-

fect a decision to buy or sell the stock.

The company has acknowledged learning in May 2014 that an environmental group had uncovered emissions irregularities, but that top officials didn't discuss the matter until more than a year later. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a violation notice on Sept. 18, 2015, leading Volkswagen to assess the risks as more serious and issue its investor advisory on Sept. 22, 2015.

Last month, a U.S. federal judge in San Francisco approved a \$15 billion settlement under which Volkswagen will buy back or fix almost half a million cars affected by the emissions scandal in the United States.

Average gasoline price up nearly a penny to \$2.26 a gallon

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average price of gasoline in the U.S. inched up about a penny over the past two weeks to \$2.26 for regular grade.

Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that the price rise came despite a dramatic drop in crude

oil prices.

Lundberg says refiners and retailers kept the margins from oil price cuts to recover from previous losses. She also says a big gasoline tax hike in New Jersey helped push up the national average.

The Lundberg Survey found the average price of midgrade

gasoline remained at \$2.54 a gallon while premium rose a cent to \$2.76.

The highest average price for regular gas in the contiguous U.S. was \$2.83 in Los Angeles. The lowest was \$1.84 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The average price for diesel was \$2.46.

Document deadbeat manager's flaws before going to management

Q: Our district sales manager is a complete disaster. "Carl" is never in the office for more than a few hours, and on some days he doesn't show up at all. He claims to be spending time with our outside salespeople, but they say this never happens, so he's obviously lying.

In addition to running the office, Carl is supposed to make monthly visits to our customers and the manufacturers of our products. However, most of them have never even seen him. We've been told that he has a horrible reputation in our industry.

Carl cares nothing about the business and provides absolutely no leadership. Morale is so awful that people are actively seeking other jobs. The entire staff feels that management should be told about this situation, but we're not sure where to go. Any suggestions?

A: Employees often spot problematic managers long before their bosses do. Since the people above Carl may be blissfully unaware of his deficiencies, you need to make the case for his incompetence very clearly and carefully. Remember that complaining about the boss is never without risk.

First, you must focus on facts. Statements like "his reputation is horrible" or "he's a terrible leader" only describe general perceptions. But for specific evidence, detailed documentation is required.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



For example, how many hours is Carl in the office each week? On what dates did he misrepresent his whereabouts? Which customers say they've never seen him?

Next, you need to demonstrate exactly how Carl's misconduct is hurting the business. Collect examples of lost sales, canceled orders, unhappy customers, departed employees and other undesirable consequences. After organizing all this information into a concise presentation, your group should be ready to meet with the higher-ups.

Since anyone in Carl's management chain might be biased in his favor, a neutral third party would be a better choice. If your human resources group has a positive reputation, consider talking with the head of that department. Starting at the top is important, because low-level HR staffers may not have enough influence to be helpful.

Finally, keep your expectations realistic. Although the problem seems obvious to you, management needs time to investigate. And since that pro-

cess will be confidential, your group may never know what happens next. Having done everything you can, you must bide your time and hope that Carl eventually disappears.

Q: I work in a customer service center where we answer phones all day long. However, two of my co-workers spend a lot of their time on the phone just talking to each other. Although our supervisor is supposed to be monitoring calls, she hasn't done anything to stop them. What should I do about this?

A: Unfortunately, you seem to have a supervisor who doesn't want to supervise. If she did, these slackers wouldn't be allowed to tie up customer lines with their personal chatter. So you seem to have three options.

You could call out the free-loaders yourself, choose to ignore their babbling, or try to find a manager who actually cares. But whatever you decide, thanks for explaining why it always takes so long to get through to customer service.

AP
In this Oct. 10, 2016 file photo, a man passes by Samsung Electronics Galaxy Note 7 smartphones at the company's shop in Seoul, South Korea.

Android-powered devices.

Executives at Samsung and Viv Labs said that the biggest difference between the existing digital assistant and the one they are jointly developing is that the latter will be an "open AI platform," meaning that third-party developers will be able to offer their services through Samsung's AI platform.

"Our Galaxy smartphones don't provide services that enable consumers to order pizza or coffee, but does provide third party applications. But the new AI platform will enable consumers to do things that they would usually do through a separate third party application," Samsung's statement said.

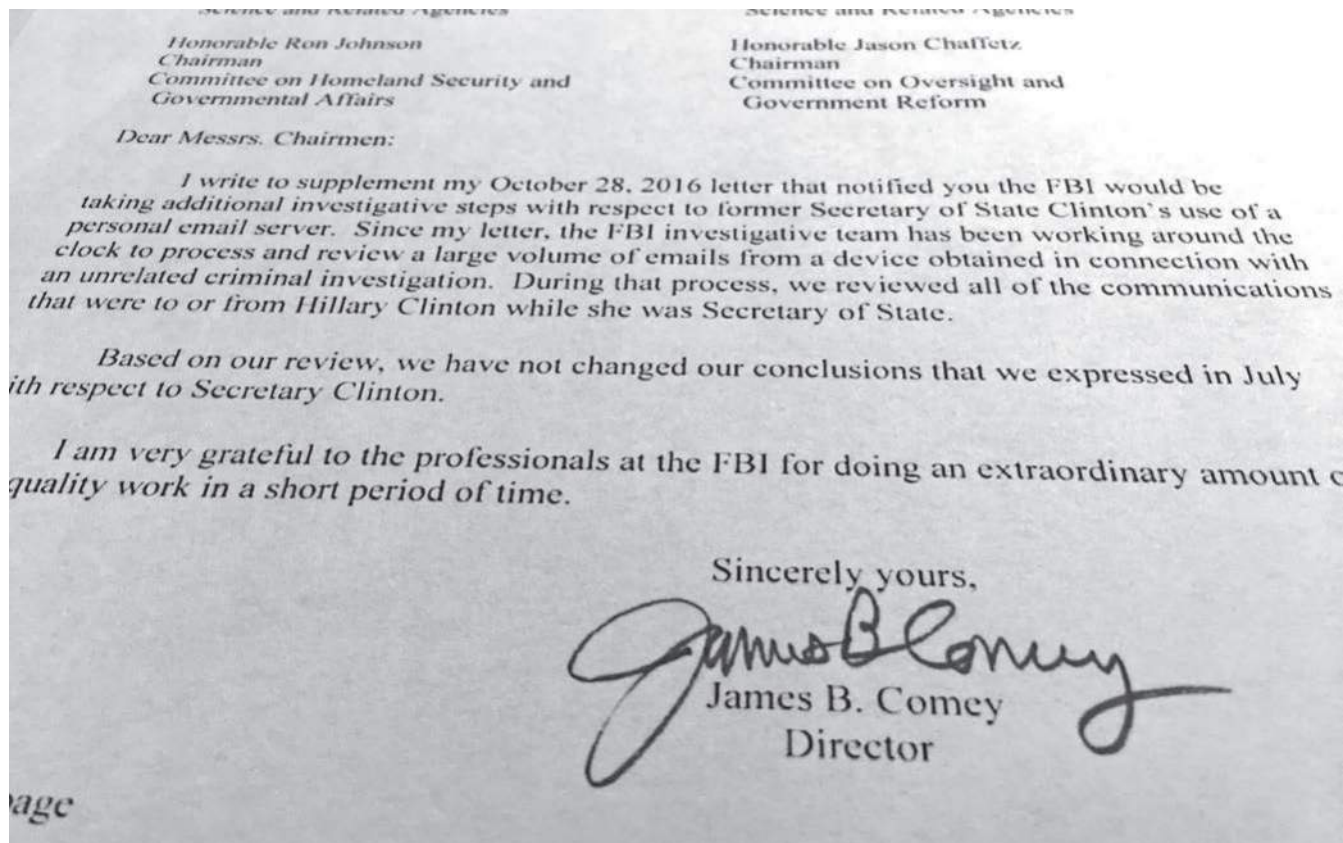
In last minute twist, FBI clears Clinton on emails

CLEVELAND (AP)—In an extraordinary last-minute twist to a volatile campaign, FBI director James Comey lifted the cloud he had placed over Hillary Clinton, saying Sunday the bureau had found no evidence in its hurried review of newly discovered emails to warrant criminal charges against her.

Comey's move capped a stunning chapter in the bitter, deeply divisive contest between Clinton and Republican Donald Trump. The director's initial decision to make a renewed inquiry into Clinton's emails public on Oct. 28 upended the campaign at a crucial moment, sapping a surging Clinton's momentum and giving Trump fresh ammunition to challenge her trustworthiness.

Clinton's campaign, furious at Comey's handling of the review, welcomed Sunday's announcement. Communications director Jennifer Palmieri told reporters, "We're glad this matter is resolved," though Clinton herself did not mention the issue during a rally in Ohio with basketball superstar LeBron James.

The new review involved material found on a computer belonging to Anthony Weiner, the disgraced former congressman and estranged husband of Clinton aide Huma Abedin. While Comey was vague in his initial description of the inquiry, he said Sunday



that the FBI reviewed communications "to or from Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state."

Based on that review, Comey told lawmakers the FBI was not changing the conclusion it reached this summer. Then, Comey said, "no reasonable prosecutor" would recommend Clinton face criminal charges for using a private email system while at the State Department.

Trump, campaigning in Michigan, challenged the

FBI's ability to review the newly discovered emails so quickly and argued Clinton was being protected by a "rigged system."

"Hillary Clinton is guilty.

She knows it, the FBI knows it, the people know it," Trump declared. "Now it's up to the American people to deliver justice at the ballot box on Nov. 8."

In financial trading Sunday

evening, Dow Jones index futures jumped about 200 points ahead of Monday's stock market opening on news of Comey's announcement. The stock market, which is allergic

Part of a Nov. 6, 2016, letter from FBI director James Comey to Congress is photographed in Washington, Sunday, Nov. 6, 2016. Comey tells Congress that a review of new Hillary Clinton emails has "not changed our conclusions" from earlier this year that she should not face charges.

to uncertainty close to Election Day, wilted after Comey's notification to Congress in late October.

The FBI began investigating the handling of classified material on Clinton's private email server shortly after she announced her bid in April 2015. The issue has dogged Clinton's campaign and contributed to the questions a majority of Americans have about her honesty and trustworthiness.

Still, Clinton had appeared to be heading for a sweeping victory before Comey's first letter to lawmakers, in which he stressed the FBI could not yet assess "whether or not this material may be significant," or how long it might take to run down the new investigative leads.

Black pastors issue urgent plea to voters at Sunday services

DETROIT (AP)—At Sunday services, in rallies and on social media, black pastors urged congregants to vote, hoping to inspire a late flood of African-American turnout that could help propel Democrat Hillary Clinton to victory in critical swing states on Tuesday.

In Detroit, a pastor spoke of voting and citizenship. In Philadelphia, the minister reminded congregants others had died for their chance to cast a ballot. The Rev. Jesse Jackson spoke to a few hundred people in front of City Hall in Tallahassee, Florida, before they marched a block over to the county courthouse to vote early.

Along with women and

Hispanics, African-Americans are seen as critical to Clinton's chances against Republican Donald Trump. However, early voting data from key states indicate turnout will not be as high this year as it was four years ago, when Barack Obama, the nation's first African-American president, was on the ballot. Sunday's efforts were aimed at minimizing that decline.

Bishop T.D. Jakes, pastor of the Texas megachurch The Potter's House, tweeted on a red, white and blue backdrop, "Make sure your voice is heard. Vote on Nov. 8."

"Preachers are trying to strike a moral nerve and somehow penetrate the fog of

indifference and try to remind people what's at stake this year," said the Rev. James Forbes, retired pastor of The Riverside Church, in New York, which hosted a national get-out-the-vote telecast Sunday night called "The Revival: Time for a Moral Revolution in Values."

"These are very crucial times to a nation with so much anger, so much anxiety about the future," Forbes said at the revival Sunday night. "We must be very careful not to fall prey to the siren call of those who are peddlers of false hope, illusions and lies."

Forbes has been traveling the country to mobilize vot-

ers. He and other pastors have taken pains to emphasize they were not endorsing a candidate, but it was hard to mistake some remarks Sunday that signaled a deep opposition to Trump.

"There are some folk in this country who think that to make this country great again, we've got to exclude folks," said the Rev. Mark Tyler, pastor of Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church, in Philadelphia, one of the first black churches in the U.S. "We've always been great because we've always been open to strangers. If it was not for the goodness of the first Americans, there would be no America today."

ACROSS THE NATION

'Person of interest' sought in New Jersey fatal stabbings

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—A New Jersey man already wanted on assault charges from last month was being sought Sunday as a "person of interest" in a weekend knife attack at a Newark home that left two children and a woman dead, authorities say. Police were searching for 26-year-old Jeremy Arrington in their investigation of the Saturday afternoon attack that also left three people injured, Acting Essex County Prosecutor Carolyn A. Murray said at a news conference after the stabbings. A possible motive for the attack has not been disclosed. Arrington has not been charged in the stabbings, but is also wanted on charges of sexual assault and aggravated assault for an unrelated incident on Oct. 9, Murray said. Prosecutors on Sunday released the names of the three who were killed. They said 8-year-old Aerial Little Whitehurst and 11-year-old Al-Jahon Whitehurst both died at a hospital shortly after the attack. A county spokesman said the two Newark children are re-

lated, but he declined further comment.

Magnitude 5.0 earthquake shakes central Oklahoma.

CUSHING, Okla. (AP)—A magnitude 5.0 earthquake has shaken central Oklahoma, causing damage to some structures. The U.S. Geological Survey reported the earthquake struck at 7:44 p.m. CST, with an epicenter located one mile west of Cushing, about 50 miles northeast of Oklahoma City. The USGS initially stated it was a magnitude 5.3 earthquake but lowered that rating to 5.0. The quake was felt as far away as Kansas City, Missouri, and Little Rock, Arkansas. The Cushing Police Department reported "quite a bit of damage" from the earthquake but details were not immediately available. Photos posted to social media show piles of debris at the base of commercial buildings in the city. Cushing, which has a population of about 7,900, bills itself as the "Pipeline Crossroads of the World." It is home to the Cushing Tank Farm, a massive oil storage facility that's touted as the world's largest.

Captive's rescue leads to break in grisly quadruple slaying

CHESNEE, S.C. (AP)—For 13 years, the relatives came together periodically to grieve one of South Carolina's grisliest mass shootings and compare leads with stumped investigators.

On Sunday, they gathered again on the anniversary of the crime—this time in a Spartanburg courtroom after an unexpected break led to the man who, authorities say, confessed to the quadruple slayings.

The victims' relatives sat a few feet away from Todd Kohlhepp as he was denied bond on the murder charges. It was their first chance to face the man accused of killing their loved ones.

After the hearing, Magis-

trate Judge Jimmy Henson thanked the families for their civility and composure.

"I know there's a lot of hurt ... beyond what a lot of people understand," he said.

Authorities have charged Kohlhepp, 45, with four counts of murder in the 2003 deaths at the Superbike Motorsports motorcycle shop in Chesnee.

Kohlhepp's alleged role in those killings was uncovered, authorities said, after a woman was found last week chained in a locked metal container on Kohlhepp's property in rural Woodruff.

The murder charges against Kohlhepp represent welcome progress for investigators and families haunted by the slay-

ings at the motorcycle shop. The killings shocked the state and left the victims' parents and spouses reeling with each new rumor about a possible motive.

"We got 'em today. We got 'em today," Sheriff Chuck Wright said late Saturday, referring to answers in the cold case. "I'm rejoicing that this community can know that four people who were brutally murdered, there's no wondering about it anymore," said Wright, who was first elected to the position about a year after the quadruple slayings.

A Spartanburg County Sheriff's investigative report from Saturday says Kohlhepp "confessed to investigators that he shot and killed" the owner,

service manager, mechanic and bookkeeper of the motorcycle shop, giving details only the killer would know.

Kohlhepp is also charged with the woman's kidnapping, and prosecutors say more charges are expected.

Officers are making more grisly discoveries as they unwind a hidden crime spree that unfolded over more than a decade.

The investigation has expanded to other properties that Kohlhepp, a real estate agent, either currently or used to own. Those properties are not limited to South Carolina, Wright said Sunday, declining to be more specific.

Both the FBI and Homeland Security are involved, he said.

Asia

Scandal unites rival Koreas in fury at South Korea's leader

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—In only a few days, South Korea's biggest scandal in years has done what six decades of diplomacy and bloodshed couldn't. It has united the rival Koreas, at least in one area: indignation against South Korea's leader.

North Korea's propaganda mavens have never been shy in calling South Korean President Park Geun-hye an incompetent, power-hungry clone of her late dictator father, Park Chung-hee—and that's when they're pulling their punches.

Inconceivable a week ago, many South Koreans now seem to be reaching Pyongyang levels of fury over an investigation into whether Park allowed a longtime confidante with no official government role to manipulate her administration from the shadows.

The North's fondness for vicious threats is generally missing in the South, but the anger over the scandal—sometimes partisan, mostly spontaneous on the part of many South Koreans, but more violent and somewhat canned in the North, where carefully cultivated outrage is a state commodity—often seems to be in lockstep.



AP
In this Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016, file photo, South Korean protesters shout slogans during a rally calling for South Korean President Park Geun-hye to step down in downtown Seoul, South Korea.

For instance, in wording that North Korea would be right at home with, Ahn Cheol-soo, a lawmaker from a small South Korean opposition party and a potential presidential candidate, recently said of Park: "You no longer have the authority to destroy the constitu-

tion. You no longer have the authority to stomp on the pride of our people."

Here's how a similar sentiment looked when North Korea's main newspaper recently attacked Park: "It's deplorable that the South's politics have become the joke of the world

and its economy and people's livelihoods are left in shreds."

To be clear, the expressions in South Korea, even at their sharpest, are still a long way from the odious linguistic swamp of violence and sexism that characterizes much of North Korea's propaganda.

The North, for instance, has called Park a "dirty prostitute who licks her master's groin," an "aging witch," a "female

dog" and an "American parrot." Pyongyang has also repeatedly called for her death.

But there has been an uptick in both rage and sexism in the South, especially online, where Park and her confidante, Choi Soon-sil, have been called "crazy bitch," "chicken head," a slur meant to attack their intelligence, and "stupid Gangnam ajumma," a term often used to insult middle-aged women living in affluent southern Seoul. People have also declared that South Korea will never again vote for a female president or trust a woman's leadership.

It is not just happening in obscure corners of South Korea's social media or the web, never the cream of public discourse.

Abu Sayyaf claims to have kidnapped German, killed woman

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine military is trying to verify a claim by Abu Sayyaf militants that they have kidnapped a German man from a yacht and shot and killed his girlfriend in the southern Philippines, a military spokesman said Monday.

Regional military spokesman Maj. Filemon Tan said Abu Sayyaf spokesman Muamar Askali had claimed the militants kidnapped Juegen Kantner and killed his companion while the couple were cruising off neighboring Malaysia.

It's not clear why the wom-

an was purportedly killed but it's possible she may have fought back or tried to escape, Tan and another military official said.

Villagers reported finding a dead woman lying beside a shotgun on board a blue yacht with the German flag and marked "Rock All" off Laparan Island in Sulu province, Tan said. The southern province is where the ransom-seeking militants hold their hostages in tropical jungle encampments.

Marines were deployed to verify the villagers' report and have been ordered "to be careful in approaching the vessel

because it might be rigged with explosives."

If the attack on the couple is confirmed, it would be the latest in a wave of attacks at sea by the Abu Sayyaf and allied gunmen despite efforts by the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia to jointly shore up security in their busy sea border, where Indonesians and Malaysians have been kidnapped from tugboats and fishing boats in recent months.

The kidnappings have continued despite one of the largest military offensives against the Abu Sayyaf mainly in Sulu and the nearby island province of Basilan that involves

more than 6,000 troops, navy gunboats and rocket-firing air force aircraft.

Without a known foreign source of funds, the Abu Sayyaf has survived mostly on ransom kidnappings, extortion and other acts of banditry.

A confidential Philippine government threat assessment report seen by The Associated Press said the militants have pocketed at least 353 million pesos (\$7.3 million) from ransom kidnappings in the first six months of the year and have turned to abductions of foreign tugboat crewmen as military offensives restricted their mobility.

Thousands in Hong Kong protest Beijing intervention

HONG KONG (AP)—Thousands of people protested in Hong Kong on Sunday, demanding that China's central government stay out of a political dispute in the southern Chinese city after Beijing indicated that it would intervene to deter pro-independence advocates. Police used pepper spray and batons to contain some of the demonstrators, arresting two.

The dispute centers on a provocative display of anti-China sentiment by two newly elected pro-independence Hong Kong lawmakers at their swearing-in ceremony last month.

China's top legislative panel said that Beijing must intervene to deter advocates of independence for Hong Kong, calling their actions a threat to national security. The Standing Committee of China's rubber-stamp legislature said in a statement that Beijing could not afford to do nothing in the face of challenges in Hong Kong to China's authority, the official Xinhua News Agency reported late Saturday.

On Sunday, thousands of people marched in downtown Hong Kong to voice their opposition to China's plan to step

in, saying the move would undermine the city's considerable autonomy and independent judiciary.

Lee Cheuk-yan, a former pro-democracy lawmaker who was among the protesters, said Hong Kong residents were concerned that Beijing was encroaching on their relative freedoms, such as freedom of speech and expression.

"We may not agree with the two (newly elected lawmakers), their language, but we have to protect their rights because they are elected members," Lee said. "If (Beijing) can deprive them

this time, they can deprive others because of other speeches or language or protest."

After the protest march, several thousand people gathered in the evening to protest outside Beijing's liaison office. Police used pepper spray and batons on demonstrators amid some scuffling.

Some protesters wore face masks and hoisted open umbrellas in the air—symbols that were reminiscent of student-led pro-democracy demonstrations in 2014 that blocked key Hong Kong streets and attracted global attention.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Kashmir teenager's death sparks fresh anti-India protests

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—At least 30 people were injured in Indian-controlled Kashmir on Saturday after government forces fired shotgun pellets and tear gas as a funeral procession for a teenager turned into a protest against Indian rule. Police and paramilitary soldiers intercepted the mourners carrying the body of the teenage boy who his family alleges died of police torture in Srinagar, the main city of the disputed region. Witnesses said hundreds of young men participating in the funeral hurled rocks at the troops as tear gas shells exploded near the boy's coffin, while another group of mourners changed route to bury him. Government forces fired pellets, warning shots and tear gas, fearing the procession could become a larger rally seeking an end of Indian rule in the Himalayan region, said a police officer, speaking on condition of anonymity in keeping with department policy.

Myanmar police suspect colleague in British teacher's death

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Police in Myanmar say a British teacher has been found dead with chest and head wounds in a colleague's apartment in Yangon. The body of 45-year old Harris

John Italo Binotti was found Sunday morning after he had been out drinking the night before. He worked at an international school in Yangon, Myanmar's commercial capital. Police say soon after the man's death, a 25-year old colleague left the country. "We suspect his colleague at the moment because the other teacher has left the country today without informing anyone," said a police officer in Kyauktada township. Police said the body was sent to the morgue at Yangon General Hospital for an examination of the wounds.

Militants' attack leaves 1 security man dead in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—A Pakistani government official says a group of militants has attacked a police post in the Khyber tribal region near the Afghan border, killing one policeman and wounding two others. Ziaur Rehman said Sunday that the attackers fled after tribal police at the Takhta Baig police post returned fire. He said traffic on the main route to Afghanistan was suspended and a curfew was imposed to search for the attackers. No group has claimed responsibility but suspicion falls on the main Pakistani militant group TTP, which has frequently conducted similar attacks.

World

Mosul battle rages as IS bombings elsewhere in Iraq kill 20

MOSUL, Iraq (AP)—Iraq's special forces worked Sunday to clear neighborhoods on the eastern edge of Islamic State-held Mosul as bombings launched by the extremist group elsewhere in the country killed at least 20 people.

The Mosul offensive has slowed in recent days as Iraqi forces have pushed into more densely populated areas, where they cannot rely as much on airstrikes and shelling because of the risk posed to civilians, who have been told to stay in their homes.

"There are a lot of civilians and we are trying to protect them," said Lt. Col. Muhammad al-Timimi. "This is one of the hardest battles that we've faced till now."

Some civilians are fleeing the combat zone, while IS militants are holding others back for use as human shields, making it harder for Iraqi commanders on the ground to get approval for requested U.S.-led coalition air strikes. Iraq's special forces are some of the country's best troops, but they still largely rely on air support

to clear terrain.

Iraqi forces first entered the eastern edge of the city on Tuesday. On Friday, forces began pushing into Mosul proper, but so far have advanced just over a kilometer (mile) into the city.

They could receive a boost with Sunday's launch of a long-awaited offensive against the IS-held city of Raqqa in northern Syria, the de facto capital of the extremist group's self-styled caliphate. That operation, launched by U.S.-backed and Kurdish-led Syrian forces, could force the extremists to split their forces to defend the two largest cities still under their control.

On the southern front of the Mosul battle, Iraqi forces are still some 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the city center. The fighting is centered on the town of Hamam al-Alil, where Associated Press journalists could hear gunfire and saw attack helicopters firing on IS positions.

Kurdish peshmerga fighters launched mortar rounds and fired heavy artillery at the IS-held town of Bashiqa, about 8

The fight for Mosul



miles (13 kilometers) northeast of Mosul. The town, which is believed to be largely empty except for IS militants, has been encircled by Kurdish forces.

The extremists captured

Mosul and surrounding areas in 2014, and have had plenty of time to dig trenches, block off roads and mine approaches to the city.

"Daesh dug trenches that

they filled with water and they have a lot of suicide attackers and car bombs," said al-Timimi, using the Arabic acronym for the IS group.

The extremists meanwhile struck far from the front lines with a series of bombings.

The deadliest attack took place in the city of Samarra, 60 miles (95 kilometers) north of Baghdad, which is home to a major Shiite shrine. Provincial spokesman Ali al-Hamdani said the attacker set off a bomb-packed ambulance in a parking lot near Shiite pilgrims before detonating his explosives vest.

The attack killed 11 people, including at least four Iranians, and wounded up to 100 other people.

Another suicide attacker rammed an explosives-laden car into a busy checkpoint outside the city of Tikrit, killing at least nine people. Al-Hamdani said five female students, a woman and three policemen were killed in the attack, while 25 others were wounded.

IS had also captured Tikrit during its lightning blitz across Iraq in the summer of 2014.

Iraqi forces drove the militants from the city, around 80 miles (130 kilometers) north of Baghdad, in April 2015.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman, Bahram Ghasemi, condemned the two attacks, which he said had killed 21 people, including 10 Iranian pilgrims, the semi-official Mehr news agency reported. It was not immediately possible to reconcile the conflicting tolls, which are common in the chaotic aftermath of attacks.

In an online statement, IS claimed all three bombings and said the ambulance bomb was set off by a second suicide attacker. The AP could not verify the authenticity of the statement, which was posted on a militant website commonly used by the extremists.

In the capital, Baghdad, a series of smaller bombings killed at least 10 people and wounded 21 others, according to police and medical officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief reporters. No one immediately claimed the attacks, but they bore the hallmarks of IS.

US election looms large over UN climate talks

MARRAKECH, Morocco (AP)—U.N. climate talks open Monday against the backdrop of a U.S. election that could have a major impact on America's role in the global agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Given Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump's diverging views on climate change and the landmark emissions pact adopted in Paris last year, some countries' delegates have been unusually blunt about their preferred outcome.

Brazilian Environment Minister Sarney Filho told reporters in a conference call Thursday he believes American society supports climate action regardless of who becomes the next president. "However, on a personal note, I hope Trump doesn't win," he added.

Clinton backs the climate policies of President Barack Obama's government, including continued engagement in the Paris Agreement. Trump, meanwhile, has expressed doubts about global warming on social media and said in a speech this year that he would "cancel" the climate deal if elected.

Those comments have raised concerns in other countries about whether the U.S. would ignore its commitments under the agreement—or

withdraw from it completely—if Trump were elected.

Asked about Trump's remarks on the Paris deal, China's top climate negotiator Xie Zhenhua said "a wise leader" should conform to global development trends.

"If you go against the tide, people will not agree and the economy and the social development of these countries will also be affected," Xie said earlier this month.

The Obama administration played a key role in making the Paris deal come together, particularly by forming a partnership with China that saw the world's top two polluters take the lead in global efforts to slash emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Under the Paris deal, the Obama administration pledged to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by 26-28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025.

But U.S. Republicans are opposed to the deal, saying it will harm the U.S. economy. Trump has called for stripping regulations to allow unfettered production of fossil fuels—a key source of carbon emissions—and rescinding the Clean Power Plan, an Obama administration strategy to fight climate change.

Syrian Kurds begin campaign to oust Islamic State from Raqqa

BEIRUT (AP)—Kurdish-led Syrian forces began an offensive Sunday to liberate the Islamic State group's de facto capital of Raqqa, clashing with the extremists north of the Syrian city and warning neighboring Turkey not to interfere in the operation.

The United States, France and Britain said they would provide air support for the offensive, which was announced at a news conference in Ein Issa, north of Raqqa, by a coalition of Kurds and Arabs known as the Syria Democratic Forces. But it lacked details on how the group dominated by Kurds plans to oust the mil-

itants from the city, home to nearly 200,000 mostly Sunni Arabs and an estimated 5,000 IS fighters.

Unlike several successful military efforts to drive Islamic State militants out of cities in Iraq, the Raqqa offensive faces several political obstacles and is likely to be much more complex.

In Iraq, a U.S.-led coalition is working with the government in Baghdad, but Washington and its partners in Syria are relying on a hodgepodge of local Arab and Kurdish opposition groups, some of which are fierce rivals. The tensions are exac-

erbated by Russian and Syrian forces on one side and Turkish forces on another.

Still, the start of the Raqqa offensive, which aims initially at isolating and encircling the city, increases the pressure on the Islamic State group, making it harder for its fighters to move reinforcements between Syria and Iraq. The city, which has been under IS control since early 2014, is home to some of the group's top leaders and is seen as the key to defeating the group militarily.

Islamic State forces already are now under attack by U.S.-backed Iraqi forces on the eastern edges of the city

of Mosul, which the militant group seized two years ago when it captured territory across Iraq and Syria for its self-proclaimed caliphate. The Iraqi forces began their operation Oct. 17 and are trying to push deeper into the city, which is the militants' last urban bastion in Iraq.

Iraq's Hezbollah Brigades, one of the main Shiite militias taking part in the government-led push to drive IS from Mosul, said Wednesday its men had taken control of a highway linking Mosul and Raqqa, severing a key supply route between the two militant strongholds.

As health system collapses, Zimbabwe turns to street herbs

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)—Zimbabwe's public health system is collapsing along with the economy, with some major hospitals suspending all non-emergency surgeries because painkillers are scarce.

Some in this southern African country are turning to the growing number of peddlers of traditional medicines, many of them young men occupying street corners in the capital, Harare.

"Faulty gear boxes, blown-out fuses. I can fix it all!" shouted Shepherd Mushore. He stood outside a now-closed garage, but he is no mechanic.

He displayed tree barks, roots and leaves of all kinds.

"Gear boxes and fuses" are his euphemisms for sexual matters.

"I can treat all types of diseases that you know. I am not a herb seller. I am an African doctor," the 34-year-old Mushore told The Associated Press.

His baseball cap and T-shirt were emblazoned with the U.S. flag. The beads around his neck and skinny jeans completed the picture of a hip-hop wannabe, not a herbalist.

Mushore admitted he is not trained in traditional medicine.

"I don't have to. I get vi-

sions in my dreams," he said.

The Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe, the medicines regulatory body, said it was battling to control the "influx" of people selling herbs and other medicines.

"People need to be conscientious and try not to be so gullible," said Richard Rukwata, the authority's spokesman. "There all these inflated claims around a lot of these herbs and medicines that are being sold by lay persons. But members of the public, some of them actually believe that those things work."

One of the people who

believe they have found a cure on the streets is Zvisinei Nyamudeza.

In quick succession, he gulped four small cups of syrup, a concoction of green and brown substances stored in dirty two-liter containers.

"He is my doctor," Nyamudeza said, patting street herbalist Mushore on the back while downing the final cup. He caught a breath before Mushore handed him a bunch of fresh green leaves, which he chewed eagerly.

"I have been improving since I started coming here two months ago," Nyamudeza said.

Focus

Displaced Syrians fear return, marking a demographic shift

BEIRUT (AP)— Syria's government says people who fled rebel zones that have since been retaken by the military are now welcome to return.

But that's not how it worked out for one refugee family that came to check out the state of their home: They found another family had moved in.

That's just one of many hurdles keeping away those displaced in Syria's war.

Many who fled say they fear arrest if they return to homes now under government control or that their sons will be conscripted into the same military that once bombarded their towns. In other former opposition strongholds, the state is carrying out redevelopment projects that have razed thousands of homes.

The opposition accuses the government of President Bashar Assad of using under-the-radar methods to discourage populations it sees as disloyal from returning, changing the demographics to help consolidate control over a corridor running from Damascus to the Mediterranean coast.

The government says it is doing all it can to bring people back.

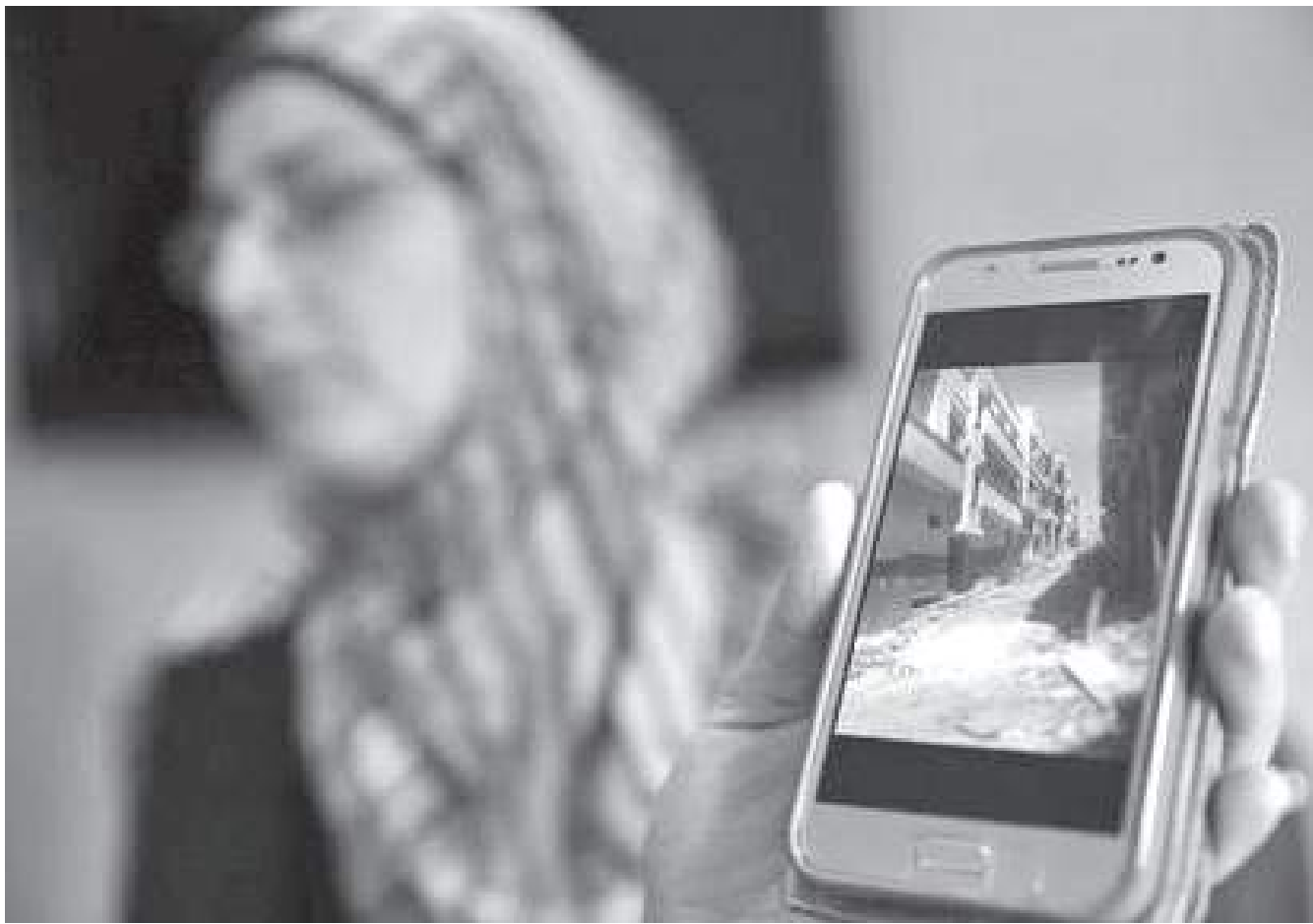
"The main goal of the Syrian government is to return all displaced Syrians to their homes," National Reconciliation Minister Ali Haidar told The Associated Press last month.

More than 11 million people, nearly half Syria's population, have been driven from their homes by the war since 2011, including 5 million who fled abroad as refugees.

The war still rages in many parts of the country, and there is heavy destruction. In those conditions, a mass return is unlikely. So it is difficult to measure how much government measures are keeping opposition-minded Syrians from returning.

But the fall of a number of opposition strongholds in recent months has brought to immediate relevance the issue of who can come back.

For example, a string of rebel, mainly Sunni Muslim suburbs around Damascus have come under military control. They were drained of much of their population as hundreds of thousands fled siege and bombardment in recent years. Now thousands more are leaving because of government control. It is an open question whether they will ever return.



AP
In this picture taken on Friday, Oct. 3, 2016, Hoda a Syrian displaced woman shows through her mobile phone the empty street of her house at Baba Tadmor neighborhood in Homs province, as she speaks during an interview with the Associated Press, in Tripoli, north Lebanon.

In Aleppo, Syria's largest city, government forces are besieging the rebel eastern districts, and the estimated 275,000 residents have refused calls to evacuate, in part because many are convinced they'll never be allowed back.

The fact that most of the people from rebel areas are Sunni Muslims adds a toxic sectarian aspect to the charges of demographic manipulation. Sunni Muslims are the majority in Syria and make up the backbone of the rebellion, while minorities have largely supported Assad, particularly members of his own Alawite community, an offshoot of Shiite Islam.

Homs, Syria's third largest city, offers an indication of the hurdles for would-be returnees.

In 2014, Homs' last major rebel neighborhoods, centered in its Old City, surrendered. That came after a long brutal siege that drove an estimated 300,000 from the city.

Two years later, the government says the Old City is open for residents, but even official statistics say only 40 percent have returned. That figure is impossible to independently confirm, and the opposition believes it is inflated.

On a visit to the Old City of Homs earlier this year, an AP team found a ghost town.

More recently, AP interviewed six families expelled from Homs' old quarters, and only one could point to a relative, among hundreds, who has returned. All those inter-

viewed spoke on condition they only be identified by their first names for fear of reprisals by the government.

"The families of the old city are still in exile. Today, you'll find them all over the world, except in their neighborhoods," said Abou Zeid, from the Jouret al-Chiyah neighborhood.

Hoda, now living in the Lebanese city of Tripoli, said she was told she had to pay overdue bills before she could see her Homs home. But she, like others, is deeply hesitant to approach state institutions to do so or validate her property records because it means crossing through multiple checkpoints run by the feared security services.

The displaced fear security forces will detain their husbands and sons for trumped-up crimes or conscript them into Assad's military.

"We are not able to go back," said Rabaa, who fled to Lebanon with her family in 2012.

She has a 20-year-old son. "The first thing they'll do is take him to the military," she said. "Go see our home? No way."

Families have also found others living in their homes. The extent of such incidents is murky. The displaced say the expropriation is widespread, but their reports cannot be independently confirmed.

A pair of sisters, Maha and Um Alaa, described to the AP how they tried to check on Um Alaa's apartment in the town

of Tel Khalakh, a former opposition stronghold 25 miles (40 kilometers) east of Homs. The sisters, now in Tripoli, spoke on condition they not be fully identified.

Maha visited and found another family living there, she said. A loud argument ensued, and Maha backed off, fearing that the government would side with the squatter family.

Um Alaa said her neighbors told her the family was from the nearby town of Hosn. Neighbors also said other displaced people had asked authorities in Tel Kalakh for places to live and were directed to houses of those who had fled, Um Alaa said.

The family in the home could not be reached because the landline has been switched off.

Also, Um Alaa fears she and her husband won't be able to reclaim their home because they didn't bring their property deed when they fled in 2014. "We thought we would only be gone a month," she said. "We have nothing to prove it is ours."

Conscription fears are also driving residents out of former opposition strongholds.

The government denies that conscription is a tactic to push dissidents out, saying it a national duty.

"It's a law that dates back to the establishment of the Syrian state," said Haidar, the national reconciliation minister.

He said the military is exploring ways around the predicament. For example, in

some recaptured areas, the government has offered to postpone conscripts' deployments for six months to a year.

But many deserters and draft-dodgers view this as simply a government tactic to give them a deadline to leave.

"The implication is that ... in these six months you get everything in order and flee, (and the military) will look the other way," said Dani Qappani, an opposition activist.

In the Damascus suburb of Moadamiyeh, for example, a third of the population of 50,000 fled during the government siege. After the suburb surrendered in September, some 10,000 more are likely to leave over the coming months for fear of conscription, said Bassma Kodmani, an opposition official.

Similarly, some 13,000 will probably leave the Damascus suburb of Qudsaya along with their families to avoid conscription, said a former fighter in Qudsaya.

The fighter, who is wanted for military service, said he approached authorities for the 6-month grace period and received it. He said that gives him time to sell his home and belongings before moving with his wife and two children to the northwest province of Idlib, the main rebel-held territory. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he has not yet left the government-held area.

When the suburb of Daraya fell in August, all its

last remaining residents—around 2,700 from an original 250,00—were removed and put in camps, raising an outcry from U.N. officials over the possibility of a forced displacement. The government says they will eventually be allowed back.

But Daraya could see the sort of urban renewal projects that observers say are also a tool for demographic engineering.

A 2014 report by Human Rights Watch identified seven opposition neighborhoods around the country razed by government authorities for "redevelopment." It accused authorities of carrying out collective punishment.

Presidential Decree 66, issued in 2012, lists a number of areas, mostly opposition, for urban renewal projects that will tear up thousands of homes. The government says the existing construction is illegal, but the neighborhoods were allowed to grow for decades before the war.

"It serves another purpose: to punish the unruly areas, so you pacify them, and you change the demographic," said Rashad al-Kattan, a political analyst affiliated with the Center for Syrian Studies at the University of St. Andrews, in Scotland.

In March, Assad lay the cornerstone for one such renovation project, in Damascus' working-class Kafr Sousa and Basateen al-Razeh neighborhoods. The project is to build orderly new residential towers. But opposition outlets say residents are being pushed out. The Human Rights Watch report said up to 3,000 residential buildings had been demolished.

Decree 66 also authorizes similar projects for Daraya, according to the pro-government business journal Iqtisad.

Daraya and the other Sunni suburbs are highly strategic, said Kodmani, with the opposition's High Negotiations Committee.

"If Damascus is to be really safe over the longer term, any pockets around Damascus need to be made loyal."

Overdrive

AP
A Chevrolet Bolt EV is on display at the General Motors Orion Assembly plant Friday, Nov. 4, 2016, in Orion Township, Mich.

GM starts producing 200-mile electric Chevrolet Bolt

By TOM KRISHER
AP AUTO WRITER

ORION TOWNSHIP, Michigan (AP)—It can go more than 200 miles on battery power and it costs less than the average new vehicle in the U.S. But in an era of \$2 per gallon gasoline, the Chevrolet Bolt probably won't do a whole lot to shift America from gasoline to electricity.

General Motors has started making Bolt hatchbacks on a slow assembly line at a factory in Orion Township, Michigan, north of Detroit.

The cars, starting at \$37,495 before a \$7,500 federal tax credit, will go on sale in California and Oregon before the end of the year, and will spread to the rest of the country next year. The average sales price of a new vehicle in the U.S. is about \$34,000, according to Kelley Blue Book.

Analysts say the Bolt's 238-mile range on a single charge, plus a net price of around \$30,000, should make it an attractive alternative to cars with internal-combustion engines. While they expect the Bolt to incrementally add to the number of electric cars now on the road, they don't expect a seismic shift to electricity yet.

The Bolt's range more than covers the average daily round-trip commute of about 40 miles in the U.S., and that should give comfort to those who fear running out of power, said Stephanie Brinley, an auto industry analyst for IHS Markit. But there's always the late night at work and the early meeting the next morning without enough charging time, or the night you forget to plug the car in. Those are tough adjustments for Americans, she said.

"We're trained to believe that wherever we go, we get can get the fuel that we need. With electricity you need to plan that out a little bit more," Brinley said.

IHS predicts that GM will sell just under 30,000 Bolts

in the first year, which won't add much to the roughly 235,000 electrics now on U.S. roads. Brinley says there will be small growth as more companies such as Tesla Motors roll out affordable electric vehicles with range over 200 miles. Last year about 100,000 EVs were sold in the U.S., and IHS predicts 300,000 annual sales by 2020 and 400,000 by 2025.

Still, Chevrolet believes the Bolt is a game-changer. "It becomes just a mainstream vehicle choice," said Darin Gesse, the Bolt's product manager.

GM, he said, set out to make the range about equal to a half-tank of fuel in a gas-powered car. With a half-tank of gas, most people don't worry that they have to refuel for a while and are comfortable driving, he said.

In a quick drive Friday on roads near GM's technical center north of Detroit, the car accelerated quickly when compared to a gas car. GM says it goes from zero to 60 mph in about 6.5 seconds, which is faster than many muscle cars from the '70s and '80s. The handling was tight with very little body roll, yet the ride was smooth and quiet.

GM beat rival Tesla to market with a long-range affordable electric car by at least a year. Tesla plans to start delivering its 200-mile, \$35,000 (before tax credits) Model 3 in the second half of next year, and it had 373,000 deposits as of May.

The carmaker hasn't revealed exactly when the first customer will get a Bolt. Chevrolet didn't take advance reservations but says there's been strong interest at its dealerships.

Not all of GM's 3,000 dealers nationwide will be certified to sell and service the Bolt, although the company isn't sure how many yet. Around 2,000 can service the Bolt's plug-in cousin, the Volt.

GM says that should be a big advantage over Tesla, which doesn't have service centers in every state.



In God's Loving Care Jose Sablan Palacios Lovingly known as George

May 18, 1949 - November 3, 2016

In his new life, he now joins his:

Father: Jesus Muna Palacios
Mother: Anunciacion Sablan Palacios
Brother: Roman Sablan Palacios
Sister: Rita Sablan Palacios
Grand Daughter: Heatherlynn DLC Palacios
Father In-law: Mariano SN. Reyes
Mother In-Law: Beatris Sablan Reyes
Brothers In-Law: Richard I. Macaranas, Edward M. Cabrera, Gonzalo Q. Santos
Sister In-Law: Fermina Reyes Cabrera

His memory will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Lydia Reyes Palacios
Children: Jennifer P. & Kimo M. Rosario & Children
Jeffrey R. Palacios & Nora P. Dela Cruz & Children
Joseph R. & Nanette S. Palacios & Children
Jay R. Palacios & Ryan Bruyninckx
Jamie R. Palacios & Darell B. Concepcion & Children

Brothers, Sisters, & Their Spouses:

†Roman S. & Patricia T. Palacios & Family
Jesusa P. & Joaquin M. Iglecias & Family
Antonia P. & Jay Corral & Family
Darlene P. & †Richard Macaranas & Family
David S. & Margarita M. Palacios & Family
†Rita S. Palacios & Family
Anuncia S. Palacios & Adam Mazon & Family

Brothers & Sisters In-Law:

Olympia R. & †Gonzalo Q. Santos & Family
†Fermina R. & †Edward M. Cabrera & Family
Robert S. & Magdalena S. Reyes & Family

He is also survived by numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Daily Mass of intention is celebrated at Our Lady Of Mount Carmel Cathedral for the repose of his soul at 6:00am. Recitation of the holy rosary is prayed nightly at Our Lady Of Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:00pm.

Funeral service will be announced at a later date.

Please join us in prayers
Thank You – Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Lydia Reyes Palacios, Children, & Family



Life & Style

Justin Bieber wins 3 MTV EMA Europe music awards

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands (AP)—Justin Bieber's "Beliebers" helped turn him into the biggest winner Sunday at the MTV EMA European music awards. Again.

Bieber, who carried away the most silverware at the MTV EMAs last year with five awards, won Best Song this time around for his smash "Sorry," and also took away the title of Best Canadian Act. His army of so-called Beliebers earned him his third crown of the night, Biggest Fans, in online voting via Twitter and Instagram

that closed shortly before the show started.

Bieber was one of the many winners on the night who did not attend the show.

Just two days ahead of the U.S. presidential election, veteran punk rockers Green Day closed the raucous show with their anti-establishment anthem "American Idiot."

"It is nice to be out of America just for a second because of this horrendous election that is going on right now," lead singer Billie Joe Armstrong said.

The band was honored with the MTV Global Icon Award,

but lost out to Twenty One Pilots in the Best Live category and to Coldplay in Best Rock. Twenty One Pilots also won the Best Alternative category.

Lady Gaga, also among the absentees, won Best Female and Best Look. The awards were colored purple this year to honor the late Prince.

"Prince, we will always miss you," presenter Bebe Rexha said early in the show as purple spotlights crisscrossed the Ahoy arena in Rotterdam.

Shawn Mendes gave his mom a shoutout after winning

the Best Male category.

"My mom's birthday is today, so happy birthday mom, I love you," Mendes said.

Another Canadian took Best Video, with The Weeknd featuring Daft Punk winning for Starboy.

Dutch DJ Martin Garrix kept the home crowd happy by picking up two awards—Best Electronic and Best World Stage—and teamed up with Rexha to perform a duet of "In the Name of Love."

Rexha also provided one of the more surreal performances of the night by singing

her single "I've Got U" while dancing on and around a giant faux-fur letter U, complete with eyes that followed her moves.

After a rainy day in Rotterdam, OneRepublic got soaked by a man-made shower on stage while performing their new song "Let's Hurt Tonight."

Beyonce was tied with Bieber for the most nominations—five—leading into the awards show, but was shut out. Queen Bey was in good company; Britain's Adele was up for four awards, including

Best Song for her single "Hello," but also failed to pick up a single prize.

On Saturday, the Kings of Leon kicked off the MTV EMA weekend in Rotterdam with an intimate gig at the Dutch city's Old Luxor Theater.

Playing a mix of old favorites and tracks from their recently released album 'Walls', the U.S. musicians entertained a packed crowd that included "Game of Thrones" actress Sophie Turner who was dancing in the aisles with singer and actor Joe Jonas.

'Doctor Strange' spins magic at re-energized box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A strong batch of new films drew audiences to the theaters in large numbers this weekend, including Marvel's "Doctor Strange," the animated "Trolls" and Mel Gibson's WWII drama "Hacksaw Ridge," effectively waking up the sleepy fall box office. The top three films all garnered largely positive reviews from critics and all recorded A CinemaScores from opening weekend audiences too.

As the superhero in the bunch, "Doctor Strange" easily dominated with \$85 million in North America theaters according to studio estimates Sunday. Starring Benedict Cumberbatch as the neurosurgeon turned sorcerer, "Doctor Strange" opened internationally last weekend. It's already grossed \$325.4 million globally.

It's the fourteenth film in the Marvel Cinematic Universe and the fourteenth to open at No. 1. As one of the lesser-known properties, it far-surpassed "Ant-Man's" \$57.2 million launch, but fell a little short of "Guardians of the Galaxy's" \$94.3 million debut.

Much of the "Doctor Strange" business came from premium large format screens and 3D showings, which, according to RealD, made up 47 percent of the domestic gross.

"Movie theaters exist for a movie like 'Doctor Strange,'" said Dave Hollis, the executive vice president of distribution for The Walt Disney Company.

For one, Hollis said, it's just visually different.

"Yes, for a marketing tagline the idea that it's something that you haven't seen before is a great way to sell something, but having something that arrests and totally disrupts what people are expecting to see inside of a movie theater is part



This image released by Disney shows Benedict Cumberbatch in a scene from Marvel's "Doctor Strange."

of what will help jump start what has been a bit of a slower box office lately which is good not only for us but for the entire marketplace," Hollis said.

The weekend also drove The Walt Disney Studios to surpass the \$6 billion mark globally—a first for the studio and a second for the industry.

Disney wasn't the only one celebrating, though. DreamWorks Animation's "Trolls," a family-friendly musical featuring the voices of Anna Kendrick and Justin Timberlake, took second place with \$45.6 million in North America, and \$30 million internationally. In addition to being one of the first new family films to hit the market in a few weeks, the film also had the added benefit of an original hit song from Timberlake, "Can't Stop the Feeling."

And in third place, "Hacksaw Ridge," Gibson's film about the true story of the conscientious objector Desmond Doss's (Andrew Garfield) heroics during the battle of Okinawa, earned \$14.8 million. The independently financed

film cost a reported \$40 million to make.

"It's a real return to form for Mel Gibson who has obviously had his ups and downs in his personal life, but it is a true meritocracy in this business," noted Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box office tracker comScore. "If you make a really great movie, people will judge you based on that movie."

Gibson hasn't directed a film since "Apocalypto" in 2006.

Holdovers populated spots four and five. "Tyler Perry's Boo! A Madea Halloween," dropped 55% in its third weekend in theaters. It made \$7.8 million, bringing its total earnings to \$65 million.

Perry also managed to beat out "Inferno" again, which brought in only \$6.3 million in weekend two to take fifth place. The Tom Hanks-starrer has grossed \$26.1 million to date.

In limited release, the likely awards film "Loving," about the true story of the couple behind the Supreme Court decision that invalidated laws against inter-

racial marriage, also opened in four theaters to \$169,000.

Overall the box office is up around 16 percent from this weekend last year, which Dergarabedian says is attributable to the quality of the new films, audiences' desire for some escapism before the election on Tuesday and the diversity of content. The top three films all had different ratings too, "Doctor Strange" is PG-13, "Trolls" is PG and "Hacksaw Ridge" is rated R.

"This is the formula that Hollywood should try to recreate every weekend," Dergarabedian said.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. **"Doctor Strange,"** \$85 million (\$118.7 million international).
2. **"Trolls,"** \$45.6 million (\$30 million international).
3. **"Hacksaw Ridge,"** \$14.8 million (\$1.7 million international).
4. **"Tyler Perry's Boo! A Madea Halloween,"** \$7.8 million.
5. **"Inferno,"** \$6.3 million (\$11.4 million international).
6. **"The Accountant,"** \$6 million (\$13.1 million international).
7. **"Jack Reacher: Never Go Back,"** \$5.6 million (\$4.3 million international).
8. **"Ouija: Origin of Evil,"** \$4 million (\$8.3 million international).
9. **"The Girl on the Train,"** \$2.8 million (\$8.2 million international).
10. **"Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children,"** \$2.1 million (\$3.6 million international).

Mixed martial arts off to a fast start in New York state

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—Professional mixed martial arts are off to a rollicking start in New York state, two months after lawmakers ended its status as the only state to ban the popular sport.

While there have been a handful of bouts in the state since the change took effect, an upcoming UFC event at Madison Square Garden is expected to be the true coming-out party. Promoters say it's likely just the start of a long relationship between New York City and mixed martial arts.

"It should have been legal in New York 15 years ago," said Scott Coker, president of promoter Bellator MMA, which is hoping to hold an event next year at the Garden or at Barclays Center. "We're going to bring a big, big show, probably the biggest card in the history of Bellator."

The homecoming is particularly sweet for fighters from New York state who have had to travel elsewhere to fight professionally.

"This is a dream come true," middleweight Chris Weidman said in September. A native New Yorker, he who will be one of several fighters in Saturday's pay-per-view UFC event.

With its prominent place in boxing history, Madison Square Garden is a natural for mixed martial arts. Joel Fisher, an executive vice president at the Garden, said "it's only fitting that the first UFC fight in New York state is taking place at 'The World's Most Famous Arena,'" one of its nicknames.

State lawmakers and Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo agreed in April to end the two-decade old ban follow-

ing years of failed efforts by MMA supporters. The law authorizing the sport took effect in September. Cuomo concluded the move would boost the economy by luring bouts to the nation's largest city as well as upstate venues, with one estimate that MMA could generate \$137 million in annual economic activity.

In response to critics concerned about the sport's violence, lawmakers added provisions that raise the insurance required to \$50,000 for fighter injuries, a \$50,000 death benefit and \$1 million for life-threatening brain injuries.

The law was also intended to regulate existing amateur mixed martial arts events. KTFO Fights, a Long Island-based promoter, held the first MMA event under the new law, according to KTFO President Nic Canobbio. He said that while UFC and other big promoters might be able to absorb the higher insurance requirements, many smaller promoters cannot.

"It's a huge expense for promoters like us, and that prevents guys just starting their career from being able to fight in New York," he said. He would like lawmakers to consider tweaking the law to reduce costs on smaller operators.

Still, he said, ending the state's long ban on professional MMA has been a great win for the sport.

"New York has some of the best fighters, the best gyms in the country or maybe even the world," he said. "These guys who had to go to Jersey or Pennsylvania to fight they can now fight in their backyard."

Technical glitches delay auction of 123-year-old jeans

MTV's Farrah Abraham slammed over mother-daughter selfie

Reality TV star Farrah Abraham has received backlash after putting up an Instagram picture that appeared to show her 7-year-old daughter drinking a weight-loss tea.

The post-Halloween selfie posted on Nov. 1 showed the 25-year-old star of MTV's "Teen Mom" holding a packet of a tea she promotes next to her daughter, who appears to be drinking from a cup. In the caption she noted it was teatime for the mother and daughter "after all that candy."

The post was quickly met with criticism from commenters. Many derided her daughter for what appeared to be a weight loss drink.

Abraham later said the picture isn't what it looks like. She tells *Us Weekly* that her daughter had strawberry milk in the cup, but wanted "to take a pic like that." (AP)

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)—There are vintage jeans. And then there are the 123-year-old jeans up for sale in Maine.

The bona fide Levi Strauss & Co. blue jeans from the American Old West are still awaiting a new owner after technical glitches prevented the denim pants from being auctioned Saturday in Maine.

Daniel Buck Auctions & Appraisals said the jeans are pristine because they were worn only a few times before the owner fell ill.

"They're brand-new Levis. They just happen to be 123 years old," said auctioneer Daniel Buck Soules, who worked for 11 year on public television's "Antiques Roadshow."

The jeans were purchased in 1893 by a store keeper in the Arizona Territory.

Solomon Warner established one of the first stores selling American goods in Tucson, and he survived being shot in an ambush by Apache Indians in 1870.

He was a big fella.

The cotton jeans with button fly feature a size 44 waist and 36-inch inseam.

Unlike modern Levi's, the jeans in those days had only a single back pocket. There were no belt loops; folks back



This undated photo provided by Daniel Buck Auctions & Appraisals shows the front of a pair of 1893 Levi-Strauss denim blue jeans in pristine condition that will go up for auction Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016 in Lisbon Falls, Maine.

then used suspenders. The denim was produced at a mill in New Hampshire, and the jeans were produced by Levi's

in San Francisco.

Warner's jeans, which were stored for decades in a trunk, will be sold in the near future,

Soules said Saturday evening.

Such jeans are valuable. A pair of 501 jeans manufactured in the 1880s sold for

\$60,000 to a Japanese collector in 2005, Soules said, and another pair, from 1888, sold six months ago for six figures.

Much of Broadway will be closed on Election night

NEW YORK (AP)—Many Broadway shows have planned not to compete with a big, real drama on Tuesday—the presidential election.

The shows taking the night off include: "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical;" "Cats;" "Chicago;" "The Color Purple;" "The Encounter;" "The Front Page;" "The Humans;" "Kinky Boots;" "Les Liaisons Dangereuses;" "Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812;" "Oh Hello on Broadway;" "On Your Feet!" "Cirque du Soleil's

"Paramour;" "The Phantom of the Opera;" "School of Rock;" "Something Rotten!" "Waitress;" and "Wicked."

The Metropolitan Opera and Carnegie Hall will also be dark.

The move is both to encourage voting and to avoid competing with a nail-biting decision. Some shows—including Disney's "Aladdin" and "The Lion King, as well as "Hamilton," about the Founding Fathers, will play as normal Tuesday night.

Foo Fighters, Stevie Nicks to honor Tom Petty at MusiCares

NEW YORK (AP)—Foo Fighters, Stevie Nicks, Norah Jones and Don Henley will honor Tom Petty when he's named MusiCares Person of the Year next year.

The Recording Academy announced Friday that

George Strait, Lucinda Williams and Randy Newman will also pay tribute to Petty at the Los Angeles Convention Center on Feb. 10, 2017.

The MusiCares event will be held two days before the 2017 Grammy Awards. T

Bone Burnett will work as musical director. Others set to perform Petty tunes include Jackson Browne, Kings of Leon, the Bangles, Gary Clark Jr., Jeff Lynne, Chris Hillman, Herb Pedersen, Regina Spektor and

Elle King.

Petty and the Heartbreakers will close the show. Ringo Starr and Olivia Harrison, the event's tribute chairs, will attend.

Additional performers will be announced at a later date.

The Oscars finally have producers, host remains undecided

NEW YORK (AP)—The Oscars finally have their producers: Michael De Luca and Jennifer Todd will produce the 89th Academy Awards.

The announcement Friday by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences came

much later than usual and after widespread conjecture over who would take the reins of next year's ceremony. Reginald Hudlin and David Hill, who produced this year's show, were jettisoned after the Chris Rock-hosted broadcast, marked by

the "OscarsSoWhite" backlash, drew 34.4 million viewers, one of the show's smallest audiences in recent years.

De Luca is a veteran producer and three-time Oscar nominee, currently in post-production on "Fifty Shades

Darker." Todd is president of Matt Damon and Ben Affleck's Pearl Street Films. They're both first-time Oscars producers, though they were co-chairs of January's PGA Awards, put on by the Producers Guild of America.

Let grandma decide how much baby-sitting she wants to do

DEAR ABBY: Is it wrong to drop off a 1- and a 5-year-old at a senior assisted-living center for their great-grandmother to baby-sit in her room? My niece does this weekly, claiming she's giving my mother "quality time" with her great-grandchildren.

My mother is in the assisted-living center due to issues my dad is encountering. She's very independent and, of course, wants to help any of her family whenever she can. But Mom has an autoimmune disease that flares up with stress or when she gets tired. I'm concerned about her health and feel my niece is taking advantage of her. Of course, my sister sides with her daughter. They have told me to butt out.

I don't want to confront the management of the facility because I want Mom to feel as independent as possible there. I don't want them to not allow her to do something she really wants to do. I have safety concerns, though, and feel this is not right. What do you think?

TORN IN TEXAS

DEAR TORN: I'm not sure what your safety concerns are, but if you think the assisted-living center could be legally liable, you should address them to the manager.

As to the baby-sitting being too stressful or tiring for

your mother, leave it up to her to decide if it's too much. Some seniors find that feeling needed keeps them young. The way to gauge any negative impact on your mother's health would be if it causes a flare-up of her condition—at which point her doctor should be notified so he/she can put a stop to it.

DEAR ABBY: Are parents of the bride required to foot the cost of the wedding (averaging over \$25,000 in the U.S. nowadays) anymore? I understand they were years ago, when it was a part of her dowry, but in modern times I have heard of such a thing only in your column—unless the family is rich and Daddy pays for everything.

I can't imagine asking my parents to pay for my wedding. My fiancé and I are aiming for -- dress included -- \$1,000 or less. Are parents actually expected to spend thousands on their daughter's wedding? It's their daughter and son-in-law who want it.

JUST ASKING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

DEAR JUST ASKING: No. A wedding is a GIFT, and while it would be generous for the parents to pitch in, there is no requirement that they do so.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

The question now that really vexes
Is where we're gonna place our "X"s.
Voting, folks, should not upset ya --
Be glad we're livin' where they let ya.

XO, ABBY

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

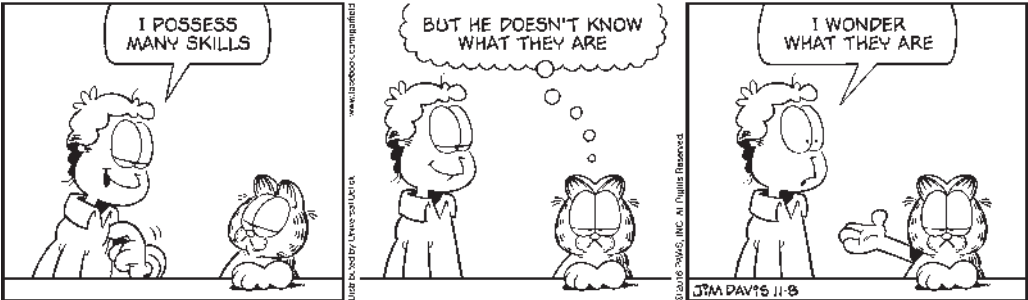
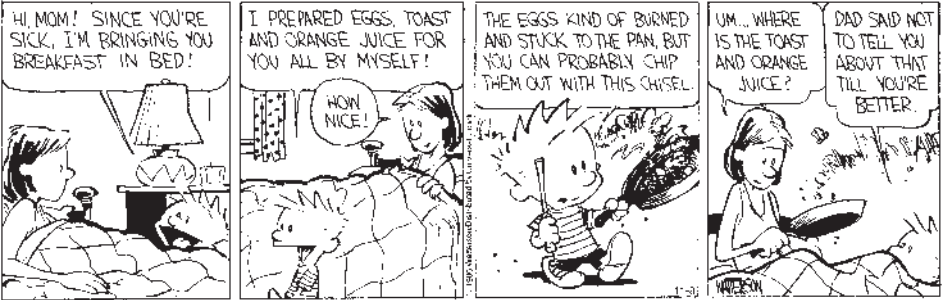
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

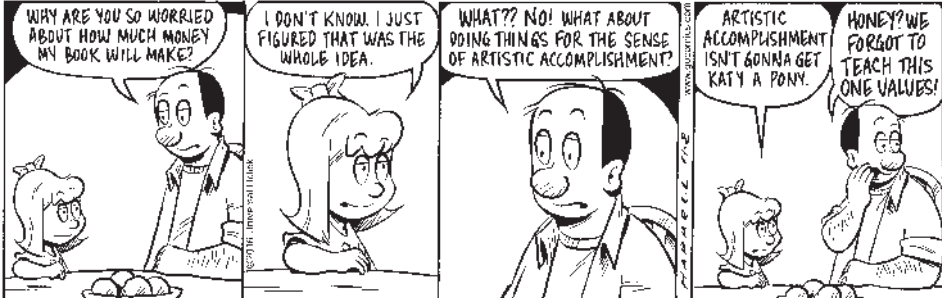


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 39 Compete 40 Sneeze sound 5 "Scorpion" ailer 47 Cake 8 Low-fat enhancement 12 Henry VIII's Catherine 50 Cheer (for) 51 PBS funder 52 Terrible guy? 53 Makes a choice 54 Documentary Burns 55 Boston cager, for short

DOWN 1 Hot tubs 2 Mr. Disney 3 Jason's ship 4 Teeth straighteners 5 Bistros 6 Poet of yore 7 — Paulo 8 Deadly 9 Writer Wiesel 10 On the briny 11 Dweeb 17 Peace-keeping org. 19 Decks in the ring 22 Snoop 23 "Bow-wow!" 24 Scratch 25 In the past 26 Enthusiast 27 — Jima 28 Swindle 29 Tofu source 31 Prohibit 34 Specters 35 Academic 36 Deep hole 37 Frenzied 39 One on a plant-based diet 40 Roundish do 41 Field yield 42 Owl call 43 Patella site 44 Own 45 Russian river 46 Huff and puff 48 Pen filler

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-8

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Jack Osbourne, 31; Parker Posey, 48; Courtney Thorne-Smith, 49; Bonnie Raitt, 67.

Happy Birthday: Diplomacy will be required this year when dealing with delicate situations. Offer love, peace and plenty of understanding when dealing with loved ones. Refuse to let the past come back to haunt you or you will miss out on what lies ahead. Change can be a beautiful thing if you are innovative and let your intuition guide you. Your numbers are 2, 12, 23, 26, 34, 41, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep a clear head. Emotional situations will interfere with your logic and reasoning, causing you to make poor assumptions and choices. Focus on personal enhancement and spending more time with someone you love. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Partnerships will take an emotional turn. Before you jump to conclusions, ask questions and listen carefully to what's being said. Nothing will be as it appears. Use what you know and do your best to advance. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll face some deception from others, so make sure you get all your facts straight before you proceed. A problem with a partnership will surface if promises aren't carried out. Focus inward and work on personal improvements. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Live, learn and build on what you have already accomplished. A partnership that gives you the strength and courage to embrace change and

try new things shouldn't be ignored. Make the most of the time you have been given. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be torn between spending and saving when it comes to entertainment and home improvements. Trying to please everyone will be impossible. Consider the most cost-efficient ways to proceed, and do your best to keep the peace. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Dividing your time between personal and professional responsibilities will be difficult, but organization, precision and paying attention to detail will help. Use your persuasiveness and patience in order to keep the peace. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You have to put yourself first. Be honest about what you want and need in your life and make the changes that will help you reach your personal goals. Network with people who enjoy the same things as you. Romance is highlighted. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Lay out your plans and strategize to fine-tune what you want to pursue. Think outside the box and let your creative imagination lead to new and innovative ways to use your skills. Don't let an emotional situation hinder your progress. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Dealing with institutions, government agencies or underhanded individuals are all discouraged. Keep your personal information a secret or someone will use it to manipulate you. Focus on personal, financial and physical gains. Work hard and do your best. ****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Emotional spending is never a good idea. When you are feeling down, lock your credit cards in a safe place. Making snap decisions or letting someone else's actions prompt you to make a move is discouraged. Concentrate on honing your skills. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): An emotional situation will escalate if you get into a deep discussion with someone. Getting involved in an event that brings out the best in you will result in meeting someone you can learn from. Choose reason over emotion. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll come across a good investment if you reconnect with someone you have worked with in the past. Take better care of your health by getting sufficient rest, exercise and proper diet. You'll miss out if minor illness takes over. ***

Birthday Baby: You are perceptive, curious and novel. You are intense and determined.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			3	7							
		8			3	4			9		
7				8				5			
1		8		2				5			
		9						6			
	3			4			2		7		
		9			7					2	
	4		9	6				1	3		

Difficulty Level ★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

7	4	1	6	8	2	3	9	5
2	6	3	9	5	1	8	7	4
5	8	9	3	7	4	2	1	6
3	7	2	8	6	9	4	5	1
9	5	6	4	1	3	7	8	2
4	1	8	7	2	5	9	6	3
6	2	7	1	3	8	5	4	9
1	9	5	2	4	7	6	3	8
8	3	4	5	9	6	1	2	7

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

YOUR CIRCADIAN RHYTHMS Solution: 13 letters

S I E S L A N O S A E S D S R
L U N L U N G S C C R A S E H
E A P T U M R O O U I N V S A
E S C R E D Y R O L O I S A I
P R U I A R E H Y I L M P H R
I A E O G C N H T A A A A P E
N I L G N O H A C N U L N S T
G X A O U E L I L S N S E U C
N O D N A L G O A B N B E E A
I P I L I O A O I S A I L L B
T Y T C L A S T D S M C P C O
H H S O W E R K E N Y A S U N
G O I A V A O B I C E H T N A
I B K A T L O S T N A L P I Y
L E W E E K L Y G Y K C O L C

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Animals, Annual, Awake, Base, Biological, Brain, Clock, Core, Cyanobacteria, Cycle, Daily, Endogenous, Health, Hours, Hypoxia, Internal, Lighting, Liver, Lungs, Maps, Nucleus, Oscillations, Phases, Physiological, Plants, Rate, Regulate, Schedule, Seasonal, Skin, Sleeping, Spleen, Suprachiasmatic, Thymus, Tidal, Waves, Weekly

Yesterday's Answer: Maps

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The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement and Supply

WHATZIT Solution: Snakes and Ladders

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- At least four years hemodialysis experience and plus three years as a charge nurse in dialysis
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine
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ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) REGISTERED NURSE

- Must pass NCLEX –RN and current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to two years hemodialysis experience or related field.
- English Language Skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-Service training with Baxter Phoenix machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system

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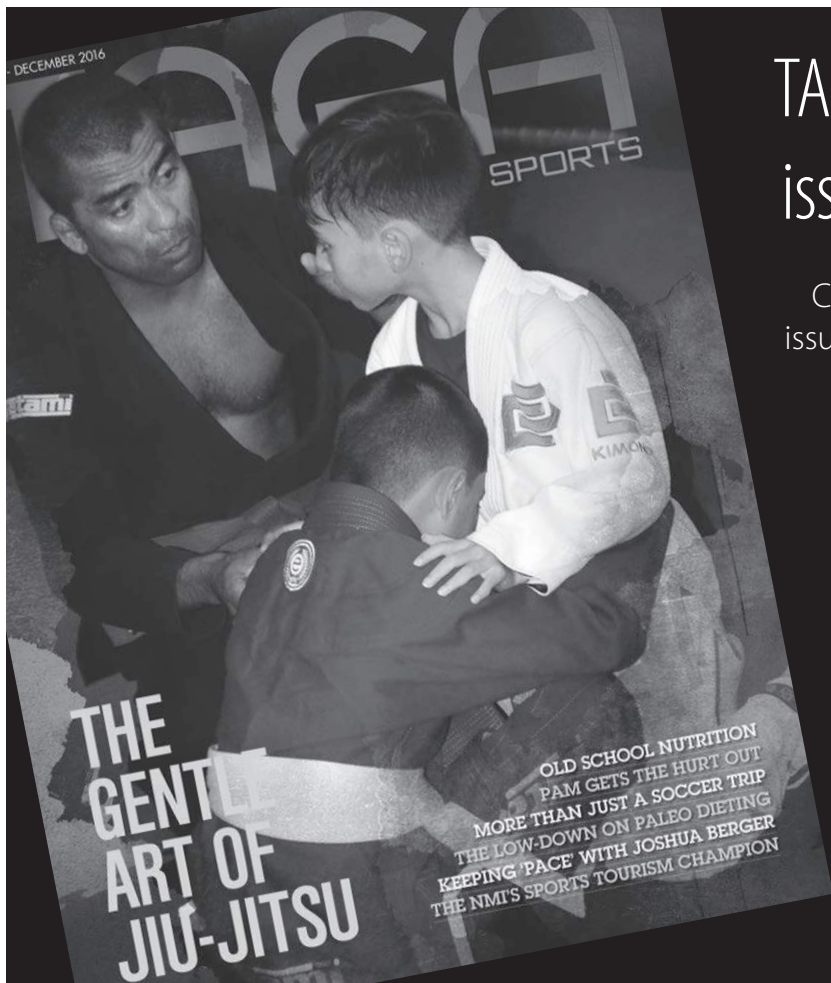
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Raiders run past Broncos 30-20 for AFC West lead



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—For the past few years, the Oakland Raiders have been building a team they hoped could thrive on the big stage.

With an offensive line that dominated the trenches and a defense much improved from a porous start to the season, they sure looked the part Sunday night.

Latavius Murray ran for 114 yards and three touchdowns and the Raiders showed they were ready for prime time, beating the defending Super Bowl champion Denver Broncos 30-20.

"We're growing to expect success," coach Jack Del Rio said. "We know we're a good team."

In what was being billed as the biggest game in Oakland since the team went to the Super Bowl following the 2002 season, the Raiders (7-2) put together a complete effort to overpower the Broncos (6-3) and take over sole possession of first place in the AFC West.

Derek Carr threw for 184 yards and did not turn the ball over, Khalil Mack had two sacks, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery and the Raiders outrushed Denver 218-33 behind a dominant performance in the trenches.

"That's what we do," left tackle Donald Penn said. "We try to take our will out on people and today it looked real good. Some days it doesn't but today it looked real good. We have to keep building. We have to get more consistent."

The performance was to the delight of an energetic crowd at the Coliseum, excited to host a prime-time Sunday night game for the first time in more than a decade. After 13 straight seasons without a playoff berth or winning record, the Raiders have shown they are ready to contend in the AFC in the second season under Del Rio after overpowering the team that has dominated the division in recent years.

"We gave up 200 yards rushing today," linebacker Brandon Marshall said. "That's definitely not the mark of a great defense, we can't just get run over."

Oakland got off to its best start in 15 years by beating up on lesser teams, but the win over the defending champion Broncos showed the progress the franchise has made since starting 0-10 two years ago.

Trevor Siemian looked shaky at times for Denver but did throw two touchdown passes, including a short pass behind the line that Kapri Bibbs turned into a 69-yard touchdown catch and run in the fourth quarter.

But Oakland still led by 10 points despite that defensive breakdown and held on for the win.

Lions 22, Vikings 16, OT

In Minneapolis, Matthew Stafford threw a 28-yard touchdown pass to Golden Tate, who vaulted into the end zone in overtime to lift Detroit past Minnesota.

After Matt Prater kicked a 58-yard field goal as time expired to force overtime, Tate finished the opening drive when he ran through arm tackles by Xavier Rhodes and Harrison Smith and leaped in for the winning score.

Stafford completed 23 of 36 passes for 219 yards, two touchdowns and an



Oakland Raiders wide receiver Michael Crabtree (15) loses his helmet while tackled by Denver Broncos cornerback Bradley Roby, left, cornerback Chris Harris (25) and free safety Darian Stewart (26) during the second half of an NFL football game in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, Nov. 6, 2016.

interception for the Lions (5-4), who have won four of their past five games. Tate had 11 catches for 79 yards.

Sam Bradford completed 31 of 40 passes for 273 yards and a touchdown for the Vikings (5-3), who started the season 5-0 but have imploded since coming out of the bye. Stefon Diggs had a career-high 13 catches for 80 yards.

Giants 28, Eagles 23

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Eli Manning threw for four touchdowns and New York's defense had two interceptions and three stops on fourth downs to beat Philadelphia.

The Giants (5-3) won their third straight game, holding off the Eagles (4-4 after a 3-0 start) after Manning was intercepted with less than two minutes to go.

Two of Manning's touchdowns went to Odell Beckham Jr., with the others to Roger Lewis Jr. and Sterling Shepard.

Manning moved into ninth place in yards passing with 46,428. Manning, in his 13th NFL season, threw for 257 yards against Philadelphia. He passed Vinny Testaverde, who had 46,233 yards through the air.

Ravens 21, Steelers 14

In Baltimore, Joe Flacco threw a 95-yard touchdown pass to Mike Wallace, and Baltimore frustrated an ineffective Ben Roethlisberger in a victory over Pittsburgh.

Baltimore (4-4) snapped a four-game losing streak and moved into a tie atop the AFC North with the Steelers (4-4), who have dropped three in a row.

Three weeks after undergoing surgery on his right knee, Roethlisberger returned well ahead of schedule. Playing for the first time since Oct. 16, the 13-year veteran looked out of sync until the fourth quarter, when he directed a 75-yard drive that got the Steelers to 21-7 with 8:38 remaining.

Before that, Pittsburgh's offense produced only two first downs and

was limited to 69 yards. The Steelers finished with 36 yards rushing, 32 by Le'Veon Bell.

Roethlisberger ran for a 4-yard score with 48 seconds left, but Chris Boswell botched the onside kick — barely knocking it off the tee — and Baltimore ran out the clock.

Chargers 43, Titans 35

In San Diego, Melvin Gordon ran for a career-high 196 yards and scored the go-ahead TD on a 1-yard run, and defensive backs Dwight Lowery and Brandon Flowers scored on turnovers by Marcus Mariota to lead the Chargers over Tennessee, which still hasn't won in San Diego since 1990.

The Chargers (4-5) won two days before the team will ask voters to approve a billion-dollar subsidy for a new downtown stadium to replace aging Qualcomm Stadium. The measure was polling well short of the two-thirds supermajority needed to pass.

Gordon, who leads the NFL with 11 touchdowns, scored on a 1-yard run with 5:28 left in the third quarter to give the Chargers a 26-21 lead. He ran 32 times, and broke a 47-yard run in the closing minutes. He also caught four passes for 65 yards.

Mariota, who led the Titans to a 21-19 lead by guiding two quick scoring drives on either side of half-time, helped the Chargers surge to a 12-point lead when he fumbled late in the third quarter. Lowery picked up the ball ran 43 yards for a touchdown and a 33-21 lead.

The Titans (4-5) have lost seven straight in San Diego since 1993, when they were the Houston Oilers. The franchise's last victory in San Diego was in 1990.

Colts 31, Packers 26

In Green Bay, Wisconsin, Frank Gore rushed for two touchdowns, Jordan Todman had a tone-setting 99-yard return on the opening kickoff and Indianapolis held on for a win over Green Bay.

Andrew Luck shook off two inter-

ceptions in the first quarter to finish with 281 yards passing and a touchdown. The Colts, who had allowed an NFL-worst 31 sacks coming into the game, gave their quarterback decent protection.

Indianapolis (4-5) heads into a bye week with a confidence-building victory after surviving a vintage Aaron Rodgers comeback.

His 3-yard touchdown pass to Randall Cobb with 3:29 left got Green Bay (4-4) within five, capping a 14-point spurt in four-plus minutes.

Rodgers finished 26 of 43 for 297 yards with three scores and an interception.

Saints 41, 49ers 23

In Santa Clara, California, Drew Brees threw a pair of touchdown passes to Michael Thomas and another to Mark Ingram, who also ran for a 75-yard score a week after being benched and New Orleans beat lowly San Francisco.

Ingram, replaced by Tim Hightower during last Sunday's 25-20 win against Seattle after fumbling for a second straight game, scored his second straight TD for the Saints on a career-long run to answer immediately after DuJuan Harris caught a 47-yard touchdown pass from Colin Kaepernick. Ingram's run also was the second-longest in Saints history and he wound up with 158 yards rushing as San Francisco allowed an opposing 100-yard runner for the seventh straight game.

The Saints (4-4) have grabbed back some momentum and returned to the race in the NFC South. They won for the fourth time in five games following an 0-3 start and eighth in the past 10 regular-season meetings with San Francisco. The Niners (1-7) didn't have nearly enough to avoid their seventh straight loss since shutting out the Rams to start the season.

Panthers 13, Rams 10

In Los Angeles, Cam Newton persevered through five sacks to pass for

225 yards and a touchdown, and Carolina's defense shut down Los Angeles.

Greg Olsen caught a touchdown pass in the first half and Graham Gano added two fourth-quarter field goals for the Panthers (3-5), who won their second straight after a four-game skid.

Newton's offense managed just 244 yards against the Rams' vaunted defense, but the Panthers nearly shut out Los Angeles in a defense-dominated game.

Case Keenum passed for 296 yards for the Rams (3-5), who have lost four straight after a strong start to their homecoming season. Los Angeles' scoreless streak reached 102 minutes, 12 seconds before Greg Zuerlein's 25-yard field goal with 8:01 to play.

Dolphins 27, Jets 23

In Miami Gardens, Florida, rookie Kenyan Drake scored untouched on a 96-yard kickoff return with 5:15 left, and Miami won a seesaw battle with New York Jets.

Jay Ajayi rushed for 111 yards and helped to run out the clock after the Dolphins came from behind for the third time.

A botched Dolphins punt led to a touchdown that put New York ahead 23-20. On the ensuing kickoff, New York's Antonio Allen was called for being offside, so the Jets had to kick again. Drake took the kickoff, found a lane and sped past the final Jet—kicker Nick Folk—into the clear.

The Dolphins (4-4) won their third game in a row, while New York (3-6) fell deeper into last place in the AFC East. The Jets hurt themselves with four personal foul penalties, two interceptions thrown by Ryan Fitzpatrick and numerous missed chances.

Cowboys 35, Browns 10

In Cleveland, rookie quarterback Dak Prescott threw three touchdown passes and kept any talk for Tony Romo unnecessary, leading Dallas over winless Cleveland.

Rookie Ezekiel Elliott rushed for 92 yards and scored twice and durable tight end Jason Witten had 134 yards receiving for the Cowboys, off to their best start since 2007.

Prescott has won seven straight starts since losing the season opener, and with the Cowboys (7-1) leading the NFC East and getting better, there's no reason for the team to accelerate Romo's return from a back injury.

The miserable Browns (0-9) dropped their franchise-record 12th straight game going back to last season and are 3-27 in their past 30. They also started 0-9 in 1975.

Chiefs 19, Jaguars 14

In Kansas City, Missouri, Kansas City stuffed Jacksonville on fourth down with less than 2 minutes left deep in its own territory, preserving a victory despite finishing without five offensive starters.

Nick Foles threw for 187 yards and a first-half touchdown toss to Albert Wilson, and helped to set up four field goals by Cairo Santos, as Kansas City (6-2) won its 10th consecutive home game.

Meanwhile, the Jaguars (2-6) couldn't overcome four turnovers — including a fumble at the goal line in the fourth quarter — in their first game with quarterback coach Nathaniel Hackett directing the offense.

Lakers hold off Suns to move above .500



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Julius Randle refused to back down from Tyson Chandler, and both big men got technical fouls for trash talking. Moments later, the crowd rose to its feet when Randle got the ball against Chandler on the perimeter in the closing minutes.

Instead of forcing a confrontation, Randle fed Jordan Clarkson for a decisive 3-pointer.

The Los Angeles Lakers are young and headstrong, but they're learning all the time.

And for just the second time in three years, they're a winning team.

Nick Young scored 22 points, Clarkson added 18 and the Lakers moved above .500 with their third straight victory, 119-108 over the Phoenix Suns on Sunday night.

Two days after their stunning upset of Golden State, the Lakers (4-3) held off the Suns down the stretch despite Devin Booker's career-high 39 points. Randle also scored 18 for the Lakers and assisted on that 3 by Clarkson with 1:27 left to seal it.

"The fact he did what he did was such a winning play on his part," Los Angeles coach Luke Walton said. "Unselfish. It's everything we want. It's him using his brain, him being competitive, him fighting for the team."

After three seasons of gradually increasing misery, the Lakers are young, fun and improving. They're also unbeaten at home, winning three straight games at Staples Center for the first time since April 2013.

"We're doing things the right way, and we're starting to see some success," Randle said. "We easily could have given up the lead, but we kept fighting. ... That's just my game. I don't back down from anybody. I'm not afraid of nobody."

Other than its season-opening victory last month, Los Angeles hadn't had a winning record since the franchise was 10-9 on Dec. 6, 2013. The three worst seasons in team history followed, but Walton's new Lakers are already injecting optimism into their huge fan base with up-tempo excitement and a quick start to the season.

Booker scored 29 in the second half while setting a career high for the second straight game. T.J. Warren had 22 points and Eric Bledsoe added 19 for Phoenix, which started slowly two days after a road game



Los Angeles Lakers guard Jordan Clarkson (6) jumps to take a shot over Phoenix Suns forward TJ Warren (12) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Los Angeles, Sunday, Nov. 6, 2016.

AP

in New Orleans.

"They're a good team in transition, and we knew that coming in," said Booker, who also had seven assists. "We had some mental breakdowns, and they took advantage of it."

Trail Blazers 100, Grizzlies 94

In Memphis, Tennessee, CJ McCollum matched his career high with 37 points, scoring 16 points in the fourth quarter to help the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Memphis Grizzlies 100-94 on Sunday.

McCollum also matched his career best with six 3-pointers. Damian Lillard added 19 points and seven as-

sists, and Maurice Harkless finished with 18 points. Portland has won two straight.

Marc Gasol led Memphis with 21 points, and Mike Conley added 16 points and seven assists. They have lost two straight, both at home.

Zach Randolph had 15 points and seven rebounds, and Vince Carter and Tony Allen scored 11 points each.

The game was close with 13 lead changes and 12 ties before Portland pulled away late. McCollum had 10 straight Portland points during one stretch to put the game away.

Jazz 114, Knicks 109

In New York, Gordon Hayward

Mavs owner Mark Cuban revokes credentials of 2 ESPN reporters

DALLAS (AP)—Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban has revoked the credentials for two ESPN reporters who cover the team but isn't saying why.

Cuban said Sunday night that Tim MacMahon and Marc Stein weren't banned from the American Airlines Center, but wouldn't be allowed to cover games there. He declined to elaborate.

"It's between us and ESPN," Cuban said.

MacMahon has covered the Mavericks primarily for several years but has spent more time in other cities this season. Stein joined ESPN as a national NBA writer in 2000 after previously covering the Mavericks for The Dallas Morning News. Both reporters are based in Dallas.

ESPN spokesman Josh Krulwitz said the network is "committed to thoroughly covering the Mavs and the NBA."

scored 28 points in his season debut, while George Hill had 23 points and nine assists as Utah beat New York.

Hayward had been sidelined since breaking his right ring finger in training camp. He led the team in scoring last season, averaging nearly 20 points.

Rodney Hood added 18 points to help the Jazz win for the third time in four games. Rudy Gobert and Derrick Favors each had 13.

Carmelo Anthony and Kristaps Porzingis each had 28 for the Knicks, and Derrick Rose added 18. New York has lost three of four.

Kings 96, Raptors 91

In Toronto, DeMarcus Cousins had 22 points and 14 rebounds, Rudy Gay scored 23 against his former team and Sacramento beat Toronto.

Gay had nine points in the fourth quarter as the Kings (3-5) snapped a four-game losing streak by winning the finale of their five-game road trip.

DeMar DeRozan led the Raptors (4-2) with 23 points, the first time this season he's been held under 30. Kyle Lowry added 15 points for Toronto, which had a three-game winning streak snapped.

Raptors center Jonas Valanciunas sat out with a sore knee.

Mavericks 86, Bucks 75, OT

In Dallas, Harrison Barnes scored a career-high 34 points and Dallas won for the first time this season, beating Milwaukee in overtime.

Barnes, who left Golden State to sign a \$94 million, four-year contract with the Mavericks in the offseason, has scored at least 30 points twice this

season after hitting the mark only once in his four years with the Warriors.

His 20-foot jumper opened the scoring in overtime, and the depleted Mavericks (1-5) never trailed after that. The Bucks scored just one point in the extra period.

The Mavericks played without starters Dirk Nowitzki (right Achilles soreness) and Deron Williams (left calf strain).

J.J. Barea added 21 points for Dallas, including five in overtime.

Jabari Parker led Milwaukee with 16 points, but only two after halftime. Greg Monroe had 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Bucks, who had won three straight.

Nuggets 123, Celtics 107

In Boston, Emmanuel Mudiay scored 24 of his season-high 30 points in the opening quarter, helping Denver to a big first half against injury-depleted Boston.

Wilson Chandler added 22 points before leaving with a left hamstring injury. Danilo Gallinari scored 16 for the Nuggets, who lost 16 of the previous 18 meetings in Boston.

Isaiah Thomas led the Celtics, tying his season high with 30 points.

Boston was missing starters Jae Crowder (sprained left ankle) and Al Horford (concussion protocol).

Mudiay, who went 0 for 7 from the floor in Denver's double-digit loss at Detroit on Saturday night, shot 9 of 10 in the first quarter and had a season high already as he outscored the Celtics. The Nuggets led 42-23 after one and 77-52 at halftime.

Boston left the floor to a loud chorus of boos.

Pampling wins in Las Vegas for 1st PGA Tour win in 10 years

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Rod Pampling won for the first time in 10 years on the PGA Tour when he closed with a 6-under 65 for a two-shot victory Sunday in the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open.

Pampling holed a 30-foot birdie putt on the final hole at the TPC Summerlin that clinched the victory. He raised his right arm and thrust it when the ball was still another foot away from the cup. The 47-year-old Australian last won on the PGA Tour at Bay Hill in 2006.

"It's extremely rewarding," Pampling said. "Winning Arnold Palmer's event is still on top. But coming back from what we've had the last few years, to get a win under the belt, it's phenomenal. Amazing."



Brooks Koepka closed with a 67 to finish second.

Lucas Glover, going for his first victory in five years, was tied with Pampling with two holes to play until he made a bogey from the bunker on the par-3 17th, and he closed with another bogey when winning was out of reach. He shot a 69 to finish third.

Francesco Molinari of Italy had a career-best 61 and tied for fourth with Geoff Ogilvy (68) and Harris English (67).

Pampling's last victory was in the 2008 Australian Masters. He lost his PGA Tour card after the 2013 season and spent two years on the Web.com

Tour, and had to return to the Web.com Tour Finals last month just to get his card back.

He was at No. 451 in the world ranking, but he played the final round as though he had never left. After missing the 12th green with a wedge and then missing a 4-foot par putt to fall one shot behind, Pampling bounced back with a 12-foot birdie putt, and an 8-iron to 18 feet for birdie on the 14th to catch Glover. Pampling made a 12-foot birdie on the next hole to keep pace, and his biggest shot might have been for par.

Tied for the lead on the par-5 16th, he pushed his drive well right into rough so deep that Pampling asked to identify his ball, and it was a good thing - it wasn't his ball. His ball was

a foot to the right, buried so badly that he could only muscle it some 30 yards behind another tree, and he had to lay up short of the water. From 121 yards, Pampling hit wedge into 6 feet and saved par to stay tied.

Glover's tee shot on the 17th was about a foot away from being good, but it caught the lip of the bunker and left a difficult shot. He missed a 12-foot par putt and never caught up.

Pampling finished at 20-under 264 and will be exemption up until his 50th birthday when he is eligible for the PGA Tour Champions.

The victory was the third of his PGA Tour career for Pampling, who also won the now-defunct International in 2004. It puts him in the Masters for the first time since 2007,

along with the PGA Championship for the first time since 2009.


"It's self-belief," said Pampling, whose wife is a psychologist. "And grinding on the Web tour gives you confidence you can compete against the younger guys."

He became the fifth Australian to win on the PGA Tour this year, joining Jason Day, Adam Scott, Greg Chalmers and Aaron Baddeley.

Ogilvy had his best finish since he tied for second in the Deutsche Bank Championship two years ago. Keegan Bradley closed with a 66 and tied for seventh. Bradley tied for sixth two weeks ago in Malaysia, giving him consecutive top 10s for the first time since March 2013.

Aaron Wise, the NCAA champion from Oregon, tied for 10th and earned a spot in the field next week in Mexico.

Source: Bud Black hired as manager of Colorado Rockies

 **DENVER** (AP)—Bud Black is taking his pitching expertise to hitter-friendly Coors Field.

The highly regarded mound guru has been hired as manager of the Colorado Rockies, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity Sunday night because the move had not yet been announced.

The Rockies scheduled a Monday news conference to introduce their new manager, but the release did not reveal the team’s choice.

Black takes over for Walt Weiss, who stepped down last month when his contract expired after four years in charge of the Rockies. They finished 75-87 last season, their best record since 2010.

The 59-year-old Black managed the San Diego Padres for

nearly nine seasons before he was fired in June 2015. He compiled a 649-713 record and was voted NL Manager of the Year in 2010 after the Padres went 90-72, their most wins since a franchise-record 98 in 1998.

Washington nearly hired Black last year before contract talks broke down and the Nationals gave the job to Dusty Baker.

After a major league career

that spanned 15 seasons on the mound, Black became a respected pitching coach for the Angels. He brings a wealth of experience to a team that’s long struggled to get outs in Denver’s thin air a mile above sea level.

Colorado had a 4.91 ERA this past season, tied with Cincinnati for 13th out of 15 National League teams. Arizona (5.09) was the only club that was worse.

Yet the Rockies boast young

talent in a starting rotation led by Jon Gray, the third overall pick in 2013 draft. Tyler Chatwood had the best road ERA (1.69) in the majors last season, while Chad Bettis and Tyler Anderson made big strides. The team will more than likely lose Jorge De La Rosa, the franchise’s all-time winningest pitcher, in free agency.

One of the biggest challenges will be shoring up a shaky bullpen that blew 28 save chances in 2016. Colorado finished 24-36 in games decided by no more than two runs.

Black was lauded for the way he ran bullpens with the Angels and Padres.

On offense, Black inherits an NL batting champion in second

baseman DJ LeMahieu, an all-around star in third baseman Nolan Arenado, an up-and-coming shortstop in Trevor Story and a feared hitter in outfielder Carlos Gonzalez.

“I like the group that we have,” Arenado said after the final game of the season. “I think we are close. But basically when I say that it’s for the fans. I want fans to know that so they don’t lose hope. I feel bad. They come out every day, to see us lose the way we do sometimes.”

Arenado led the NL in RBIs (133) and tied for the home run title with 41. He played stellar defense at third base again and could be in line for his fourth straight Gold Glove.

Cespedes opts out of Mets deal, free agent again

NEW YORK (AP)—Yoenis Cespedes opted out of the remaining two years of his contract with the New York Mets on Saturday to become a free agent again.

Acquired by the Mets from Detroit at the July 31 trade deadline in 2015, Cespedes had 17 home runs and 44 RBIs in 57 games with the Mets down the stretch, helping them reach the World Series for the first time since 2000.

After finding a slow market in a free-agent class that

also included Jason Heyward, Alex Gordon and Justin Upton, Cespedes made a surprise return to the Mets when New York agreed in January to a \$75 million, three-year contract that allowed him to opt out after one season and \$27.5 million.

Cespedes had 31 homers and 86 RBIs in 132 games, slowed after injuring his right quadriceps on July 8. He hit one home run after Sept. 11.

The 31-year-old slugger gives up \$47.5 million -

\$23.75 million in each of the next two years.

After helping the Chicago Cubs win their first World Series title since 1908, outfielder Dexter Fowler declined his part of a \$9 million mutual option in favor of a \$5 million buyout.

Other outfielders on the free-agent market include major league home run leader Mark Trumbo, Jose Bautista, Carlos Beltran, Josh Reddick and Matt Holliday.

Pitcher Jaime Garcia’s \$12 million option was exercised by

St. Louis, and outfielder Cameron Maybin’s \$9 million option was exercised by the Los Angeles Angels, who acquired him from Detroit on Friday.

Kansas City declined its \$7 million option on 33-year-old right-hander Luke Hochevar, whose season was cut short by surgery in August to relieve numbness caused by thoracic outlet syndrome. Hochevar will receive a \$500,000 buyout.

The Toronto Blue Jays picked up their \$3 million option on right-hander Jason Grilli.

he completed a hat trick with just less than 15 minutes gone by in the first half. Lee had his first goal right in the second minute and the next two in the fifth and 14th. A shot from David Myers Jr. in the 25th made it a 4-0 edge for MP United, while five minutes later Lee was at it again to pad their lead.

Jon Villagomez, Skyler Poon, and Rintaro Miyawaki finished things off for MP United with their goals in the 39th, 41st, and 64th minute, while Shirley’s avoided a shutout after drawing a goal from Rommel Mendoza in the 51st.

TANHOLDINGS

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ahead after the first half, 6-1, as Kirro Batino and John Michael Rojas also hit the board in the 11th and 28th minute, respectively. Razeff Altamirano handed Matansa its lone goal in the match when he found his target in the 12th minute.

Ichiro Borja chipped in two goals in TanHoldings’ easy win, providing the finishing touches on the team’s lopsided victory with his back-to-back shots in a span of four minutes (61st and 65th minute). John

Paul Cruz, Taka Borja, and Aloy Zeus Angeles made the three other goals for TanHoldings in the second half.

Kanoa 7, Paire 2

In the first game, Kanoa also eased past Paire.

Thomas Benavente and Jhoey Noble had two goals apiece for Kanoa, while Kirt Andon logged one. Kaden Church registered both goals for Paire.

The opposing teams took awhile before scoring with Kanoa breaking its silence with only four minutes left in the 35-minute first half, thanks to Benavente’s con-

version. Benavente made it two in a row as he lit up the board anew in the 43rd, while Paire finally got its first goal in the 50th.

Another goal from Church in the 55th minute tied the match, but Paire still lost in the end when Andon earned his first goal a minute later and Noble followed it up with a pair in the 58th and 64th.

MP United 8, Shirley’s 1

In the final division game last weekend, MP United crushed Shirley’s.

Oliver Lee got MP United’s hot offensive game going as

of some breakaways or counter attacks. And it wasn’t the kick over the defense and run type of counter attacks. It was from actual passes and moves and through ball type of counter attacks. The coaches were very pleased with the girls’ performance. They were not expecting this level of play from them,” Vargas added.

Olympian Luam Khen Koo coached the CNMI U19 crew and was assisted by Jimmy Tang and Irish Pagarao. Elaine Enriquez, Krizel Tuazon, De Jana Muna, Samantha Manacop, Diana Maniacop, Lyka Sally, Guinevere Borja, Dianne Pablo, Bernadette Horey, Carla Ballesteros, and captain Chloe Salvoza were the CNMI’s starters against Jordan. Anela Duenas and Pinyarat Shankweiler were the substitutes, while Chevy Kate Alipio, Grace Choi, Torremy Diaz, Jasmine Phan, and Angelica Sally were the other members of the team.

CNMI

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Terrence Evan Belcher, Sunjoon Tenorio, Joshua Abragan, Joshua De Leon, Anthony Fruit, Edwin Kim, Joshua Galarion, Chad Shankweiler, Thaiphi Austria, and Jonathan Capayas, and they were joined in Japan by Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi and NMIFA staff/coach Jerishwin Angeles.

The Teen Ayuyus duelled Briobeka Urayasu, Yokogawa, Torelos, Waseda Jitsugyo High School, Tamadaigaku Meguro High School, FC Tokyo Fukagawa U14, and Mitsubishi Yowa U17. The Commonwealth strikers dropped all their matches and scored three goals. Kiyoshi and Angeles made assessments of each game, discussing the good and bad plays the CNMI players did against their Japanese foes.

“No pain, no gain,” Sekiguchi was quoted as saying at the end of their matches. “We improved each game.”

“There were more communication from all players and more aggressiveness and passion to win the game. Though we lost to younger teams, coach Seki wanted the players to get use to the opponents’ quickness and skills so they would be more prepared in the next games,” Angeles said.

Besides the friendly matches, the CNMI delegation also had a tour at the Nissan Stadium—the biggest stadium and Japan and was the venue of the 2002 FIFA World Cup. They watched, too the game between eventual champion Urawa Reds and Yokohama Marines in the J1 League.

Meanwhile, in China, the CNMI U19 Women’s National Team played a much better defense in their second and last game in the Group A qualifier after limiting world

No. 54 Jordan to four goals.

“The improvement of the team was more than evident in this game, especially from our defensive unit. Their performance today was what they’ve been practicing the past months leading to the tournament. They were compact, disciplined, organized, and smart. The girls were able to defend well as their understanding and vision of the game has reached another level. They were able to anticipate some of the Jordanians’ plays and go where they were supposed to be early instead of a second late,” team manager Mikky Vargas said.

The CNMI bets, who bowed to Australia in their opening game, 0-16, also did not shy away from the chances to score against Jordan.

“We had many opportunities to score. There were some instances where the girls had our officials on their feet screaming, ‘Go, Go!’ because

BSI

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despite sitting on the bench in the majority of the second half, while Jinang added 12. Tony Raho was the fourth BSI-Blue Eagle player to hit double figures with his 10 markers and he could have scored more had he not taken a breather early in the fourth frame.

The final canto began with BSI-Blue Eagle ahead by 22, 83-61, and it stretched its lead to as much as 28 with Richard Peredo, Ferdie Tobias, and Raho teaming up in a 6-0 start in the opening two minutes of

the payoff period. BSI-Blue Eagle then slowed down on offense and let its guard down after tasting its biggest advantage, allowing PC Bargain to pick up garbage points and cut the deficit to a decent number.

BSI-Blue Eagle 99 — Schmidt 22, Matt Duenas 13, Jinang 12, Raho 10, Peredo 8, Palino 8, Villarin 6, Pablo 5, Hammond 4, Manny Duenas 4, Tobias 3, De La Torre 2, Echavez 2.

PC Bargain 85 — Ja. Villacrusis 37, Alegre 20, Alano 14, Abadilla 10, Cabuwagan 4.

Scoring by quarters: 34-16, 58-37, 83-61, 99-85.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	4	2	.667	—
Boston	3	3	.500	1
New York	2	4	.333	2
Brooklyn	2	4	.333	2
Philadelphia	0	5	.000	3½

Southeast Division

Charlotte	4	1	.800	—
Atlanta	4	2	.667	½
Orlando	3	3	.500	1½
Miami	2	3	.400	2
Washington	1	4	.200	3

Central Division

Cleveland	6	0	1.000	—
Detroit	4	2	.667	2
Milwaukee	4	3	.571	2½
Chicago	3	3	.500	3
Indiana	3	3	.500	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	5	2	.714	—
Houston	3	3	.500	1½
Memphis	3	4	.429	2
Dallas	1	5	.167	3½
New Orleans	0	6	.000	4½

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	5	1	.833	—
Portland	4	3	.571	1½
Utah	4	3	.571	1½
Denver	3	3	.500	2
Minnesota	1	4	.200	3½

Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	5	1	.833	—
Golden State	4	2	.667	1
L.A. Lakers	4	3	.571	1½
Sacramento	3	5	.375	3
Phoenix	2	5	.286	3½

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	1	0	.875	217	132
Miami	4	4	0	.500	173	182
Buffalo	4	4	0	.500	212	172
N.Y. Jets	3	6	0	.333	173	235

South

Houston	5	3	0	.625	137	167
Tennessee	4	5	0	.444	217	226
Indianapolis	4	5	0	.444	239	256
Jacksonville	2	6	0	.250	153	215

North

Baltimore	4	4	0	.500	154	153
Pittsburgh	4	4	0	.500	184	171
Cincinnati	3	4	1	.438	167	189
Cleveland	0	9	0	.000	168	273

West

Oakland	7	2	0	.778	245	223
Kansas City	6	2	0	.750	185	151
Denver	6	3	0	.667	214	166
San Diego	4	5	0	.444	268	247

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	7	1	0	.875	223	140
N.Y. Giants	5	3	0	.625	161	164
Washington	4	3	1	.563	186	189
Philadelphia	4	4	0	.500	202	145

South

Atlanta	6	3	0	.667	305	259
New Orleans	4	4	0	.500	242	238
Tampa Bay	3	5	0	.375	180	232
Carolina	3	5	0	.375	204	206

North

Minnesota	5	3	0	.625	155	126
Detroit	5	4	0	.556	205	206
Green Bay	4	4	0	.500	198	187
Chicago	2	6	0	.250	131	179

West

Seattle	4	2	1	.643	131	109
Arizona	3	4	1	.438	179	140
Los Angeles	3	5	0	.375	130	167
San Francisco	1	7	0	.125	167	260

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFC U19 Women’s Championship 2017 Qualifiers

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



The CNMI U19 Women’s National Team’s starters against Australia pose for a photo before their debut game in the AFC U19 Women’s Championship 2017 Qualifiers last week at the Jiangsu Training Base Stadium in Nanjing, China.



CNMI U19 Women’s National Team head coach Luam Khen Koo gives instructions to his players before their match versus Jordan.



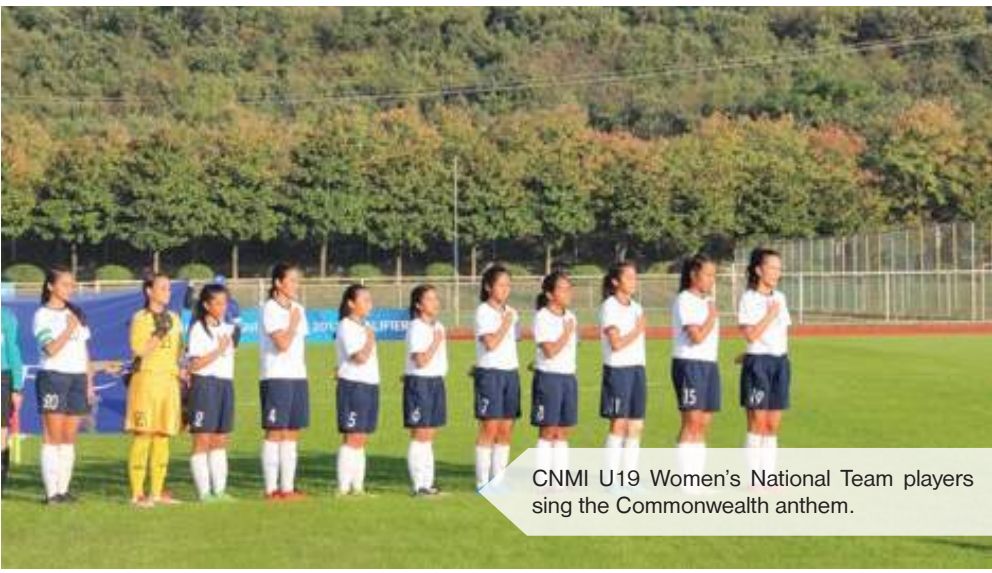
CNMI U19 Women’s National Team players huddle before the start of their match against Jordan.



CNMI U19 Women’s National Team and Jordan players along with the game officials enter the stadium.



CNMI U19 Women’s National Team captain Chloe Salvosa and her counterpart in Jordan meet the officials at center court.



CNMI U19 Women’s National Team players sing the Commonwealth anthem.



CNMI U19 Women’s National Team captain Chloe Salvosa stays close on defense against a Jordan player.



The CNMI U19 Women’s National Team’s starting unit against Jordan poses for a photo.



**Raiders run
past Broncos
30-20 for AFC
West lead**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Lakers hold off
Suns to move
above .500**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016

TanHoldings zeroes in on U14 title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

TanHoldings Football Club is likely to keep the boys U14 division title this year after extending its streak in the 2016 NMIFA Youth Fall League last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

TanHoldings, which ruled the 2016 spring season, walloped Matansa FC, 11-1, in the second match in the division to stay unbeaten (8-0-0 win-draw-loss) and virtually clinch the fall championship.

The spring champion is two wins ahead of its closest rival Kanoa FC (6-0-2) with the Top 2 teams each having two games left in the double-round robin season. The best thing that Kanoa could get out from its two remaining matches is to tie TanHoldings, provided the latter will drop its final two games. TanHoldings will face the third-ranked Paire (4-0-4) in its penultimate match this Saturday and cellar dweller Shirley's (0-0-8) in its last as-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A TanHoldings FC player kicks the ball away from Matansa FC defenders during the first half of their boys U14 division game in the NMIFA fall league last Saturday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field.

signment on Nov. 19. Kanoa's division leading team back-firing four goals. He gave the final two matches are against Shirley's and MP United (4-0-4). to-back goals in the first half after scoring in the fourth and 10th minute and its eighth straight victory after then got two more in the same



period with his third coming in the 26th minute and the fourth and last seven minutes later.

TanHoldings was way

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CNMI teams complete soccer camp, AFC tournament

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The two CNMI national youth squads are back on island after completing their respective

events in Japan and China.

The CNMI U17 Boys National Team returned yesterday from its training camp in Japan last



week, while the CNMI U19 Women's National Team arrived last week-end after competing in the AFC U19 Women's Champi-

onship 2017 Qualifiers at the Jiangsu Training Base Stadium in Nanjing.

The Commonwealth's boys team brought 20 players in Japan and they had a series of training matches against different teams in Tokyo. The squad is made up of Clayton Izuka, Christopher Aninzo, John Joseph Bucayo, Alex Park, Alan Hinson, Mareko Tekopua, Euly James Ermitanio, Carlson Cruzat, Dai Podziewski, Ryan Relucio,

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI U17 Boys National Team players and officials and their Japanese host pose for a photo after a tour at the Nissan Stadium in Tokyo, Japan last week.

BSI-Blue Eagle eases past PC Bargain

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Best Sunshine International-Blue Eagle/SMF had another strong showing in the 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League following its domination of PC Bargain/Visminda, 99-85, Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

BSI-Blue Eagle set the tone for the one-sided match right from the get-go to improve its record to 5-1 and shadow leader and unbeaten Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani (5-0). PC Bargain fell to a dismal 1-6 mark to remain at the bottom of half of the team standings in the nine-squad field.

Douglas Schmidt and Ariel Jinang teamed up in BSI-Blue Eagle's jackrab-bit start, combining for 17 points in the first quarter to lift their team to a 34-14 advantage. Schmidt and Jinang outgunned the entire PC Bargain crew in the opening canto with the former making 9 points and the latter adding 8, including 6 from

the 3-point area.

With a comfortable advantage, BSI-Blue Eagle had the luxury of shuffling its players in the last three quarters and all 13 of them capitalized on the occasion, contributing to the squad's easy win.

While BSI-Blue Eagle had multiple options on offense, it was a different story for PC Bargain, which played with a shorthanded crew having only six players available for the match. James Villacrusis carried most of the load for PC Bargain, as he sizzled for 37 points. Romualdo Alegre, Tito Alano, and Benjie Abadilla also finished in double figures with 20, 14, and 10, respectively, but most of their baskets came when the BSI-Blue Eagle had already secured the victory midway in the fourth canto.

With the win in the bag, Schmidt left the match going into the last four minutes of the final quarter and after scoring a game-high 22 points. Matt Duenas also had twin digits with his 13

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Best Sunshine International-Blue Eagle's Ariel Jinang attempts a fade-away jumper against Raffy Cabugawan during the fourth quarter of their game in the UFO caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.